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# C&D

## CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

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## Cosmetic Price Increases

### MAKERS DISTURBED AT PUBLIC'S REACTION

cosmetics and toiletries manufacturers are disturbed at the rocketing prices of their products brought about in recent months by purchase tax. They believe the public blame them and not the incidence of tax for the increases.

Attempting to put the matter in focus the Toilet Preparations Federation, Ltd., on November 25 issued a Press notice giving examples of a few typical products used widely by women: a lipstick that rose in price by 1s. 3d. during the last twenty-eight months and a compressed powder that went up by 1s. 1d. Both increases all except twopence are accounted for by purchase tax. The Federation says that the increase in exclusive prices "has only partially met the increased costs to both manufacturers and retailers, brought about by other Governmental action such as increased costs of raw materials as a result of devaluation, the imposition of S.E.T., increased transport, postal and other charges. Now the public is faced with yet another increase because of the use of the regulator just announced."

a doctor believed a drug to be vital to a patient's cure he would prescribe it regardless of cost. In considering using a new product, he would tend to follow the rule that the greater the increase in cost over an existing product, the more significant the advance it must demonstrate. Having made a decision, however, the doctor would not actively contemplate price each time he prescribed the product.

### Statutory Committee

HEAVY AGENDA FOR DECEMBER

THE Statutory Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society is meeting at

17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, at 10.30 a.m. on December 5, to reopen inquiries into the circumstances of three convictions against members of the Society under the Larceny Act, 1916. The Committee is also to consider allegations against a member of misconduct in a professional respect. Other cases to be considered involve members convicted for offences under (1) the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1964; (2) the Forgery Act, 1913, Larceny Act, 1916, and Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1964; and (3) the Larceny Act, 1916.

### Industrial Training

CHEMICAL BOARD ANSWERS QUESTIONS

SOME of the questions raised by employers since the announcement of the Chemical and Allied Products Industry Training Board's levy and grants scheme (see *C. & D.*, August 24, p. 158) are answered in the Board's latest bulletin (No. 4). Among the many points is a reply to the criticism that the

### Doctors' Prescribing

WHAT INFLUENCES DECISIONS

DRUG company representatives and medical journals are the sources of information on new drugs favoured by most doctors, a survey carried out by the Office of Health Economics has shown. For assessing a product's usefulness, however, medical journal articles and consultants' recommendations came out best. In both instances, company literature sent through the post and local meetings were reported as doing poorly. The survey, on prescribing decisions, was carried out in May and June 1967 and reported on it by Mr. J. McKenzie (H.E. deputy director) appears in the current November issue of *Medical World and Newsletter*. Group discussions at the start of the survey revealed a number of influences, later confirmed by questionnaire, on a general practitioner's prescribing decisions. A tendency to prescribe automatically a certain drug when presented with a particular illness emerged, and new products were found likely to be tried only in the light of a demonstrable therapeutic advance or where the patient did not respond to the standard description. It was found also that if



FROM GHANA TO GREENFORD: Pharmacists from Ghana see how Betnovate dermatological cream is packed at the Greenford, Middlesex, factory of Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd. The members of the group are all completing in December a year's study in London hospitals under scholarships awarded by the British Council. In the picture Mr. F. W. Ashby (assistant to the factory manager) is explaining a point to Mr. E. N. Ayeh from Suhum hospital (Eastern region), who is at St. George's Hospital, Mrs. C. Y. Gavu from Korle-Bu hospital, Accra (Middlesex Hospital), and Messrs. J. K. Oppong from Dunkwa-on-Offin hospital (Western region) (St. Thomas's); J. Attah-Nyamekye from Kumfo-Noyke hospital, Kumasi (Westminster); F. A. Temeng from the general hospital, Koforidua (Eastern region), and E. Fofie from Sunyani-Brong-Ahafo hospital (B.A. region) (Royal Free). Centre, rear, is Dr. M. J. Dorey (manager, Pharmaceutical Packing).



Board has not introduced differential levies for the wide range of industries it covers. The Board says the difficulty would be to say where the break points should be, but it concedes that with experience the case for differential levies will emerge. Asked what short courses, conferences, seminars and working visits will qualify for grant, the Board states that they must be shown to have a specific training content and be part of a training programme, for example to enable an employee to keep pace with technological advance. In another reply it says that it intends, in preparing detailed guidance on management training and development, to take particular account of the fact that some two-thirds of the companies it covers have less than 100 employees. An up-to-date list of areas assigned to the Board's training advisers is available from 158 High Street, Staines, Middlesex.

## Foot-and-mouth Virus

### pH THE CRITERION FOR INACTIVATION

MOST rapid inactivation of foot-and-mouth disease virus collected from the 1967-68 British outbreak occurred in the presence of acids or alkalis. That emerges from experiments with a wide range of chemicals and disinfectants at the Animal Virus Research Institute, Pirbright (*Veterinary Record*, November 16). A report on the findings adds, however, that it was necessary to maintain the pH under conditions of use, (so requiring preparations contaminated with organic matter to be renewed). Rate of virus inactivation in presence of phenolic disinfectants was slow and, though rapid inactivation was obtained with sodium hypochlorite, organic matter such as serum neutralised its activity and residual virus was found. Activity of iodophor disinfectants proved to depend upon acid content and pH value; those containing hydriodic acid were more readily neutralised by organic matter than were those formulated with phosphoric and sulphuric acids. The author suggests that, if a detergent or other agent active against other viruses or micro-organisms can be incorporated with an alkali or acid without affecting pH value under conditions of use, a suitable wide-purpose disinfectant would be available. The report notes that citric acid, which has been found effective against virus with or without detergent, has been used as a disinfectant in the Institute.

## Oral Contraceptives

### "AUTHORITATIVE ASSESSMENT" CALL

A CALL for an "authoritative assessment" of oral contraceptives is being taken up by five of the major manufacturers. Ronald Bedford (science editor of the *Sun*) suggested, in an article on November 20, that women should have access to all the facts, in easy-to-follow terms, so as to be able to decide for themselves whether to use the "pill". Members of the Oral Contraception Information Centre (Eli Lilly & Co., Ltd.; Organon Laboratories, Ltd.; Schering Chemicals, Ltd.; G. D. Searle & Co., Ltd.; Syntex Pharmaceuticals, Ltd.) are accordingly trying to arrange a preliminary meeting of bodies con-

cerned with family planning and population control, so as to try to establish the areas that need study and to set up an expert committee. Bodies approached include the Department of Health and Social Security, Family Planning Association, Medical Research Council, Committee on Safety of Drugs, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Royal College of General Practitioners and Royal Society.

## I.C.I. Gets to the Point

### A START ON DECIMAL PRICING

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries, Ltd., are adopting decimal pricing for certain products from January 1, 1969. Individual invoice items will be shown in decimals only, total invoice amounts being presented additionally in the £.s.d. Divisions involved in that first change-over are Mond (all products except lime) and the agricultural and Nobel divisions (chemical products). Plans of other divisions, are also well advanced. The pharmaceutical division will issue dual currency price lists early in 1970 and, from February 1971, in decimal only.

## "Recommended" Prices

### "MAY FRUSTRATE" PRICES LAW

THE Board of Trade was urged by a speaker at a businessmen's seminar in London recently to order an investigation of marketing devices and pricing schemes planned by some major suppliers of consumer goods. Those suppliers were said by lecturer Mr. Bowes Egan to be using the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968, in a way that could reintroduce effective price controls, "frustrating the sense and purpose of restrictive trade practices law." Mr. Egan complained that some companies that had abandoned the system of recommended prices in 1965 were now, with the Trade Descriptions taking force on November 30, reintroducing recommended prices to form the basis of future marketing schemes.

## Agricultural Chemicals

### MORE SAFE USE RECOMMENDATIONS

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has issued recommendations for the safe use in Great Britain for the following compounds:—Formothion (insecticide and acaricide); coumatetralyl (anticoagulant rodenticide); bromoxynil (herbicide); fentin hydroxide (fungicide); arprocarb (carbamate insecticide); propionic acid (in food storage practice); pyrimithate (insecticide); cyanide powders (for gassing rabbits and rodents); sulphachlorpyridazine, thiabendazole and amprolium, ethopabate, nifursol, payzone nitrovin, meticolpindole, Pancoxin, cruformate, para-aminobenzene arsonic acid (all for veterinary use).

## Safety-razor Sales

### LOWER THIRD QUARTER SALES

THE total value of sales of complete sets of safety razors for the third quarter of 1968 at £308,600 was 12 per cent. lower than in the corresponding quarter of 1967; sales for export fell

by 2 per cent. according to the Board of Trade's latest *Business Monitor*. The total value of sales of stainless steel safety razor blades in the third quarter of 1968 was 9 per cent. higher than in 1967; export sales were 38 per cent. higher. The total value of sales of other safety razor blades was 1 per cent. lower than a year ago and export sales were 4 per cent. higher.

## IRISH NEWS

### Drug Distribution

#### GOVERNMENT DEPOTS NOT THE ANSWER

"WHEN the concept of the distribution of drugs for the General Medical Services scheme through Government regional depôts was mooted, we in the Industry were most concerned," said the chairman of the Pharmaceutical Allied Industries' Association (Mr. P. E. Greville) responding to the toast to the guests at the annual dinner of the Wholesale Drug Federation of Ireland in Dublin, on November 20. The majority of pharmacies were small one-man shops whose proprietors could not possibly exercise the sophistication in stock control and in the scheduling and planning price lists that would enable them to have adequate stocks at all times of every drug likely to be prescribed by each doctor. They had to depend to a great extent on the superb service given by the wholesalers. For those reasons the industry appealed strongly to the Department of Health to "think again" about the regional depôts proposed in the White Paper on the Health Services and to recognise that, in the existing network of wholesale chemists, they had a "superlatively efficient" distribution service that could not be approached by an alternative system as suggested in the White Paper. "I think we all know that the Government has recognised this alternative point of view, and I think I am right in saying that the Department is pretty near agreement that wholesale chemists shall handle the distribution of drugs in the health scheme." The president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (Mr. T. R. Miller) hoped that though there were rumours of a different "set up," relations between the general pharmacist and the Federation would continue along existing lines. "I cannot visualise any community pharmacy carrying on without the service you provide." The chairman of the Federation (Mr. M. G. Durcan), replied to the toast to the Federation proposed by Mr. Miller.

## IRISH BREVITIES

### THE REPUBLIC

THREE members of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland—Messrs. H. P. Corrigan; D. J. Kennelly and M. Costello—have been appointed by the Minister for Health to the reconstituted *Comharle na Nimheanna* (Poisons Council). The Dean of the College of Pharmacy (Professor R. F. Timoney) has also been appointed to the body, which advises the Minister for Health and the Minister for Agriculture on the making of regulations under the Poisons Act, 1961.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

THE text of the Medicines Act, 1968 has now been published (H.M. Stationery Office, price 14s. 6d.).

THE index of retail prices in October was 126.4 (January 1962=100), compared with 125.8 in September.

GROSS receipts from an Anti-dumping Order levied on Japanese saccharin was £928 2s. 6d. in the year ended March 31. The levy was ten pence per lb.

THE way an advertising agency operates, and its value to the national economy, are set out in a publication issued by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising, 44 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

THE American Pharmaceutical Association has published a 1969 edition of its "Handbook of Non-Prescription Drugs" (\$5 to non-members). Copies are available from the Association, 215 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20037, U.S.A.

THE board of the National Chamber of Trade is studying a complaint that, far from discouraging shoplifters, the courts are encouraging it by imposing inadequate penalties on offenders. Local chambers have been asked to provide evidence that might be helpful to the board in taking action.

PRICES of creams and ointments containing corticosteroids and those of mixtures of corticosteroids containing antibiotics are compared in Ministry of Health E.C.L. 60/67 Serial No. 5/68 and Scottish Home and Health Department memorandum E.C.S.(P) 7A/1968.

FOLLOWING a decision by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to increase from three to five the membership of the Agricultural and Veterinary Group subcommittee, an election is being held early in 1969. Nominations should be submitted between December 1, 1968, and January 3, 1969.

FINCHLEY Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society has set up a subcommittee to discuss with the Society change of name to Barnet Branch consequent upon the Borough of Finchley being incorporated into the Borough of Barnet and of a corresponding change of area.

THE report upon a symposium organised by the Office of Health Economics and held earlier this year at the Royal College of General Practitioners, at which ways of financing the National Health Service were discussed, has been published as a booklet, price 7s. 6d., obtainable from the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry at 162 Regent Street, London, W.1.

THE Wellcome Foundation, Ltd., have purchased one million doses of live attenuated influenza vaccine from the Commonwealth Serum Laboratory in Melbourne, Australia, for use against the A2/Hong Kong/1/68 strain of Asian influenza. First 100,000 doses left Melbourne by air on November 21. The vaccine is expected to become commercially available from Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Euston Road, London, N.W.1, some time before the end of the year.

## TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

*Regional Conference*

Those who attended the regional conference held at Exeter on November 19 (pp. 480-82), were afforded a closer and more detailed look at the work of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society than is perhaps available in the monthly reports of the meetings of that body. The Society's president (Mr. Albert Howells) and the chairmen of various committees were permitted to give an account of their stewardship and to submit themselves to cross-examination by members geographically remote from the scene of the Council's labours. Mr. Howells claimed that the Medicines Act of 1968 had been shaped largely in order to accord recognition to the pharmacist's professional discretion. That, he said, was a challenge to each member to show the professional discretion that was acknowledged in the White Paper. The fact that the speaker regards the recognition in the light of a challenge is a little discouraging. One would rather have hoped that the recognition was well merited, and that there was no need for the president's exhortation. But it is necessary to bear in mind that discretion, in a professional sense, is an unknown quantity, subject to a variety of factors. I would hope that all but a minority, whose outlook would be unpredictable in any chosen field, do nevertheless possess that sense of discretion and responsibility to which the White Paper paid tribute. Mr. A. Aldington disclosed that the present ethical code, embodied in the Statement upon Matters of Professional Conduct, is under review by the Ethical Committee, and that activity appears to be timely, for standards do not stand still and it is a long time since the principles were enunciated. To the overwhelming majority it may seem that much of the document is so self-evident as not to require stating, but once more there is that small minority but for whom many of the present legal restrictions would have been unnecessary. The field for the exercise of professional discretion has been narrowed by legislation, but it is still sufficiently wide to warrant the most assiduous care by the pharmacist.

*Clause 19*

The clause in the ethical code with a strong bearing on the matters under discussion appears, modestly, under the heading of "other matters." No. 19 states: "A drug or medicine likely to cause addiction or other form of abuse should not be supplied when there is reason to suppose that it is required for such purposes." That, in essence, sums up the most important facet of professional discretion. It is not sufficient to comply with the law relating to supervision and labelling. Most pharmacists have come across some such experience in their career, when it becomes evident that there is an increased demand for a particular item — sometimes an advertised proprietary preparation. There may even be physical evidence visible to the experienced eye, and steps should be taken to discuss the matter with the purchaser. It is no defence, to the discerning pharmacist, to attempt to placate his conscience with the excuse that, if he does not supply, someone else will.

*Cabbage and Kings*

Purchase tax, that "temporary" measure of the war years designed to raise money and curb spending, shows little sign of weakening in its declared purpose. Once more, an increased proportion of our capital and income is to be loaned to the Government free of interest, recoverable only when the goods on the shelves have been sold. Meanwhile, as on all previous occasions, my heartfelt sympathy goes out to those who toil in the attics or the dungeons of Essex Street to produce a Quarterly Price List. Chancellors of what ever political persuasion know not the ramifications of a simple statement. And the public will, in order to make ends meet, use less tooth-paste and wash less frequently in order to bring about a reconciliation between the pound and the dollar, the mark and the franc. But few of those who buy tooth-paste and soap have also been buying francs, marks, dollars and pounds. It's a strange world.



## CURBS ON SPENDING

### Purchase tax and excise duties up. An import deposit scheme

A PACKAGE of measures to curb still further consumer spending, increasing revenue by £250m., and a new system of import deposits were presented to Parliament on November 22 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Roy Jenkins).

#### Purchase Tax

By use of the "regulator," purchase tax rates were increased on November 23 by 10 per cent. The four rates are now 13½ per cent. (group includes vacuum flasks); 22 per cent. (diabetic chocolate, glucose sweets, fruit juices, barley water); 36½ per cent. (prepared medicines); and 55 per cent. (cosmetic and photographic goods).

By means of the regulator also a special surcharge of 10 per cent. was imposed on the rates of tobacco duty; Customs and Excise duties on spirits (other than power methylated), beer, wine and British wine; and hydrocarbon oil duty, petrol substitutes duty and power methylated spirits duty.

Mr. Jenkins told Parliament that it was necessary to look to the banks for a tightening of credit, particularly finance and consumer spending. It was "not proposed to inhibit finance for exports," he said.

#### Import Deposit Scheme

The Chancellor also announced that Parliament would be asked immediately to enact legislation for a scheme of import deposits. The scheme which applies to imports mainly of manufac-

tured goods requires importers to pay the Customs a deposit of 50 per cent. of the value of goods before the Customs will release them. Deposits will be repayable to the importers 180 days after the date of payment. The scheme will remain in force for one year with provision for the rate to be reduced, but not increased, by Statutory Instrument. The deposits became payable on goods entered with the Customs on and after November 27.

## INDEPENDENT PHARMACY'S FUTURE

### A plan in preparation by National Pharmaceutical Union

THE General Purposes Committee of the National Pharmaceutical Union has spent a considerable amount of time in discussing the probable future pattern of independent general practice pharmacy in the United Kingdom and the principles to be adopted by the N.P.U. with regard to "mixed" (traditional and non-traditional) trading. That was reported by the Committee's chairman (Mr. C. Jacobs) when the Executive met in London on November 22 and 23. A working document was being prepared for consideration by the full Executive Committee. From it would be formulated, and promoted to members, a plan for the future operation of an independent pharmacy. The plan would take cognisance of the fact that the growing trend towards "mixed trading" could not now be reversed. Fears had been expressed about the future of the professional-type pharmacy, since those pharmacists offering only traditional merchandise might well become High Street casualties. The long-term result would be a considerable reduction in the number of pharmacies. About half of the running costs in professional-type pharmacies were currently being provided by the Government, against about 35 per cent. previously. Further increases in the contribution from dispensing might well provoke increased Governmental control over general-practice pharmacy.

Strict professionalism could encourage nationalisation, and it was implicit in the Green Paper that there would be moves towards State dispensaries. In any case, proliferation of health centres could well lead to eclipse of the professional-type pharmacy. Accordingly it would be important to devise and promote schemes whereby even the smallest pharmacy unit could provide economically for a minimum of two pharmacists—each with financial participation in the business. Improvements in the terms of service and an increased financial interest, together with an assured successful future for the general-practice pharmacist, would do much to encourage entry into the retail sector. That the future activities of the N.P.U. should clearly demonstrate its rôle as an adviser and co-ordinator (so securing for independent pharmacy an assured and vigorous future) was vital. An important part of the plan would be to develop even closer day-to-day liaison between members and Mallinson House. The statement would be a complete revision of the N.P.U. policy

The Chancellor forecast that the scheme "is likely to involve payment to the Customs and Excise of sums of the order of £100m. in each of the next six months, which would build up to a maximum of around £600m. outstanding." Relief from import deposits must be claimed and will be given only at the time of importation. Particulars are given in Customs Notice No. 48. A list of goods not subject to import deposit is in notice 481A. Among the items mentioned are bromine and iodine, mercury, essential oils and turpentine.

statement communicated to members during 1967. It was being prepared as a matter of priority and would include a statement about the importance to members of the interrelation between the National Pharmaceutical Union and the new N.P.U. marketing company.

#### Trade Descriptions Act

A document analysing the main provisions of the Act was examined and it was agreed to bring to members' attention in the next issue of the *Supplement* points concerning trade descriptions, prices and defence. A information leaflet on the Act would also be prepared for issue during 1969, when experience had been gained in its operation. It was further agreed to make representations on behalf of members to seek assurance from the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry and the Proprietary Association of Great Britain that their respective members' goods would conform to the provisions of the Act.

The chairman of the Business Services Committee (Mr. T. G. Anwyl) is presenting the committee's minutes said it had been agreed to proceed with a series of management training seminars, similar to the one held recently in Birmingham. Mr. T. O'Rourke, on behalf of the Ulster Chemists' Association, had asked that the second should be held in Northern Ireland, and it was agreed to make arrangements for it to be held in Belfast in the Spring. Further inroads had been made into clearing outstanding orders for new-style metric weights. The load on weight manufacturers was becoming increasingly heavy, but every thing possible was being done to hasten production and stamping. Stamped metric-measure sets, stockpiled on behalf of members, were being dispatched to members as orders were received. Members of the committee were participating in a series of demonstrations by leading manufacturers of cash registers with a view to determining the most satisfactory methods of conversion to decimal working in pharmacies.

In the first twelve months of operating the scheme for distributing *Family Doctor* booklets sales to members had been above estimate; considerable numbers of booklets and new voucher cards had been bought by the public. Adjustments to the composition of the standard carton of *Family Doctor*

## DOCTORS AND A.B.P.I.

### Forum for "continuous dialogue"

TO make possible a new "continuing dialogue between the medical profession and the pharmaceutical industry," so that matters of joint interest may be kept under review and studies of problems and opportunities of mutual interest made, there has been formed a "Medical Pharmaceutical Forum" comprising members in equal numbers from the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry and from the various Royal Colleges of Medicine, Society of Apothecaries, British Medical Association, College of Pathologists, Royal Medical-Psychological Association and Faculty of Anaesthetists.

Two working committees are being set up, one of which is to consider clinical pharmacology and the testing of drugs in human beings, and the other to consider academic/industrial relationships. Professor R. D. Laurence and Dr. Denis Wheeler are the respective chairmen. There have also been informal discussions on consultation between industry and the profession before medicines are withdrawn by pharmaceutical manufacturers, and on "closed circulation" journals. *Chairman* is Sir Hector MacLennan (president, Royal Society of Medicine); and *Secretary*, Mr. R. T. Hewitt (secretary, Royal Society of Medicine). Address of the Forum is 1 Wimpole Street, London, W.1, and inquiries may be addressed to the secretary.



booklet voucher and display material had been recommended by the British Medical Association, together with other suggestions for improving the scheme.

#### North America Visit

MR. J. WRIGHT (secretary) gave a report to the Executive on his visit to North America, describing the part he had played in the convention of the National Association of Retail Druggists of America and in discussions during a six-country conference in Boston before the Convention. For the

time being it had not been felt proper to attempt any type of formal organisation or to establish a name or title under which those assembled might continue to expand upon their initial work. He described the areas of interest deemed to be of significance. In Montreal he had attended a meeting of senior executives of the drug-store members of the Independent Retail Druggists' Association of Quebec. A result of that meeting had been that Canada would consider setting up a national organisation comparable with the N.A.R.D. and N.P.U.

## IRISH DRUG ASSOCIATION

### Price list confidential

AN appeal to all community pharmacists was made, at the November meeting of the Irish Drug Association Committee, held in Dublin recently, to keep the Association's new bi-monthly price list under close control. Complaints had been made that some members had either loaned or given the list to members of the public. Since it contained so much confidential information (including the coding of prescriptions) it should not be allowed out of the custody of the pharmacist. To prevent information on coding finding its way into unauthorised hands that page will not appear in future issues and pharmacists are urged to remove it from the October issue, keeping it for separate reference. The meeting urged members to exercise "the most stringent control" over all drugs, particularly in view of recent publicity given to abuses that had occurred in distribution through unofficial channels. Christmas hours of shopping in the Dublin area were fixed. Pharmacies are remaining open on December 23 till 7 p.m.; December 24 till 8 p.m.; and December 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; reverting to normal hours on December 28. Pharmacists in the provinces were asked to make arrangements (where a five-day week operates) for one pharmacy to remain open or to be available for the dispensing of urgent prescriptions over the holiday period. It was agreed that, in any further meetings on the health scheme, the Joint Health Negotiating Committee should meet representatives of the Wholesale Drug Federation and members of the Pharmaceutical and Allied Industries Association, Ltd., on the eve of any talks with the Department of Health. Consideration was given to the copy of a submission forwarded by the Federation of Trades Associations to the Minister for Industry and Commerce that the self-designated procedural rules and functions of the Fair Trade Commission were repugnant to the Constitution and alien to a democratic form of inquiry; further that the Commission had acted in recent years in a manner prejudicial to any subject or person under investigation. The hope was expressed that a more tolerant mode of inquiry could be established. The secretary (Mr. B. R. Smith) reported on a recent meeting with the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks concerning an application for a 10 per cent. increase in wages, a forty-hour week and three weeks' annual leave for staffs; the

matters are under consideration by the Committee. No action has yet been taken on replies received from local associations to a request by the Committee for comments on increasing professional fees to meet increased costs. Replies revealed a wide divergence of opinion.

To cover items subject to both turnover tax and the new 10 per cent. wholesale tax (operative from January 1, 1969) it was agreed that pharmacists should charge 1½d. in the 1s. on all transactions affected.

## TOWARDS COMPLETE AUTOMATION

### A new stage in antibiotics production at Speke

ALREADY pioneers in computer control of the fermentation stage in antibiotics production. Dista Products, Ltd., Speke, Liverpool, 24, are currently installing first-stage data-processing equipment that could eventually make possible even greater control through the direct application of the results of automatic sample analysis. Basis of the idea is the IBM 1080 data-acquisition system, which accepts information from a number of automatic analysers, such as turbidometric assay and certain chromatography equipment (amino-acid determinations, for example; gas-liquid chromatography cannot yet be handled). The results can be stored, and the computer may be programmed to provide a punched-card output. The hope is that those analytical results can be fed directly back into the computer, which is already being used to control automatically pH, temperature, oxygen supply and foaming in the giant fermenters (a description of the installation appeared in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, September 7, p. 227). A punched-card system is at present in use to record results of the many assays carried out on every batch of material produced—and a great saving of time has been achieved because the computer is able to provide an immediate assessment of the parallelism of slopes obtained in antibiotic assays, a job that previously involved much calculation.

When a party of technical journalists were shown the computer-controlled fermenters in action on November 21, Mr. J. B. Diamond (managing director) praised the British chemical plant industry for its efforts, which had enabled the £1 m. development to be completed in twelve months. Six stainless-steel fermentation vessels, each of 40,000 gall.

## BRANCH EVENTS

### SOUTH SHIELDS

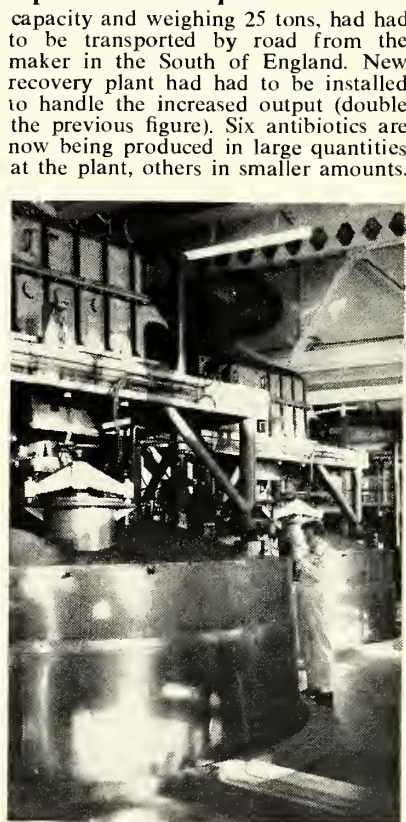
#### Remuneration Offer Detailed

NOVEMBER meeting of South Shields Pharmacists' Association was addressed by Mr. John Reed (vice-chairman of the National Pharmaceutical Union and Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee on the new National Health Service remuneration deliberations.

### FINCHLEY

#### £70 for Pharmaceutical Charities

ANNUAL dinner and dance of Finchley Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was held on October 24, when a tombola in aid of pharmaceutical charities raised over £70. Mrs E. J. M. Leigh (member of Council) proposed the toast to the Branch, the chairman Miss E. Arnold responding. Mrs Margaret Thatcher (local Member of Parliament) responded to a toast by Mr. N. Herdman (vice-chairman) who proposed "The Ladies." At the Branch's monthly meeting held on November 11 Dr. A. W. Beard, a consultant psychiatrist, illustrated with colour transparencies a talk on the problems of treating psychotic patients. He dealt in detail with the case report of a talented artist.



EUROPE'S LARGEST?: Top sections of 40,000-gall stainless-steel fermentation vessels at the plant of Dista Products, Ltd., Speke, Liverpool, 24, their foundations out of sight 35 ft. below, the vessels are believed the largest in Europe for antibiotic production and the fermentation process is computer-controlled (see *C. & D.*, September 7, p. 227).



## IN PARLIAMENT

BY A MEMBER OF THE PRESS GALLERY, HOUSE OF COMMONS

TOTAL cost of introducing and administering the prescription charges in the current financial year was estimated at between £½ million and £¾ m. During the same period special payments to chemists in connection with the charges would amount to about £½ m. That information was given to MR. EDWARD LEADBITTER by MR. DAVID H. ENNALS (Minister of State, Department of Health and Security) in a written answer on November 21. Mr. Ennals expected that, "by reducing somewhat the total volume of dispensing," prescription charges would consequently reduce the aggregate payment to chemists. MR. LEADBITTER also asked a number of other questions concerning prescription charges and MR. ENNALS replied that 52 million National Health Service prescriptions were estimated to have been dispensed by chemists in England and Wales during the period June 10 to August 31. Of that amount 27 m. incurred a prescription charge, the remainder being exempt. About 1 m. charges had been refunded, and about 36,000 applications had been received for exemption from the charges on grounds of hardship up to October 22. The Secretary of State also estimated about 500 letters had protested against the introduction of prescription charges. Estimated total cost of providing and distributing new prescription forms following the introduction of prescription charges was £55,000. To allow for the differing grounds of exemption and for the varying circumstances in which prescriptions might be issued, thirty different types of forms had been printed; seven of them had been revised and re-issued because of changes in the arrangements for exemption. One had been discontinued.

### Monopolies Report on Professions

MR. EDMUND E. DELL (Minister of State, Board of Trade) informed MR. GORDON J. OAKES in a written answer on November 21 that the Monopolies Commission on the professions was making good progress with its inquiry but he was not yet able to say when it would report.

### Insect Pheromones

MR. TOM DALYELL asked about research into the chemical and physical investigation and synthesis of insect pheromones, with a view to developing selective insecticides. MRS. SHIRLEY WILLIAMS (Minister of State) in a written answer on November 20, indicated that the Tropical Products Institute was undertaking some work on insect pheromones under the Ministry of Overseas Development, but there was no evidence that the work could be made relevant to the control of insect pests in the United Kingdom. The Agricultural Research Council's research committee on toxic chemicals was keeping the situation under review.

### Cannabis

MR. PAUL H. G. CHANNON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department when he proposed to pub-

lish the report by Baroness Wootton's committee on cannabis. MR. JAMES CALLAGHAN (Home Secretary), in a written answer on November 20, replied "Next month."

### Metrication

MR. EDWARD M. TAYLOR asked the Minister of Technology when he intended to appoint a Metrication Board to advise industry and local authorities on the transfer to the metric system. MR. ANTHONY W. BENN (Minister of Technology), in a written answer on November 20, confirmed that consultation was proceeding on the Board's chairmanship and membership and he would make a statement so soon as the chairmanship was decided.

### Decimal Comma

MR. GORDON CAMPBELL asked the Minister of Technology if the decimal comma, rather than the decimal point, would be adopted in Great Britain in the metric system, as in other countries. In a written answer on November 20, MR. BENN said there was no majority preference for the comma, no uniformity in decimal sign usage in metric countries, and no international agreement on numerical notation. It was therefore not proposed to change existing convention.

MR. CAMPBELL asked about the timing of the change-over to the Metric System by retailers. MR. BENN informed him that the date of change-over would be a subject of future consultation undertaken by the Metrication Board and it was unlikely that there would be one single date for it.

### DDT

MRS. JOYCE BUTLER asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food if he would introduce regulations to restrict the use of DDT. In a written answer on November 20 MR. JOHN MACKIE said that the Minister had no powers to do so. Proposals for legislation that would provide such powers had been circulated to the interested organisations, which had been invited to comment by December 31.

### Antibiotics in Animal Husbandry

MR. JOHN MACKIE informed DR. DAVID KERR, in a written answer on November 20 that the report of the Swann Committee on the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry was not expected before "next summer at the earliest."

### Export of Animals for Research

In the House of Lords, on November 21, Viscount Massereene and Ferrard introduced a Bill to prohibit the export of animals for vivisectional research abroad. The Bill was given its first reading.

### Samples of Medicines

MR. LAURENCE PAVITT asked the Secretary for Social Services on November 19 if he would seek an agreement with drug companies supplying medicines to the National Health Ser-

vice to limit free drug supplies to those specifically requested by prescribers.

MR. ENNALS: This suggestion will be kept in mind in the continuing discussions with the pharmaceutical industry on sales promotion. The industry's present code of practice already sets certain limits on the distribution of free samples.

### Cost of Medicines

MR. PAVITT on November 19 asked the difference in cost of medicines supplied through the National Health Service and to H.M. Forces. MR. ENNALS: Prices of medicines supplied to H.M. Forces are broadly similar to those under N.H.S. contracts; they tend to be lower than those of medicines supplied under the general medical and pharmaceutical services, where the circumstances of supply are different.

### Influenza Vaccine

MR. MOONMAN asked the Secretary for Social Services, on November 22, what methods the Government would have at its disposal to deal with the serious influenza threat likely to reach the United Kingdom around Christmas; and if he was satisfied that the A2 virus vaccine would be available in sufficient quantities in time.

MR. ENNALS: There is a shortage of monovalent vaccine prepared from the variant of A2 virus isolated in Hong Kong in July 1968. Manufacturers are giving priority to its production and some vaccine is being imported, but supply is unlikely to meet all possible demands for some time. Because of concentration on the Hong Kong variant, supplies to wholesalers of the polyvalent vaccine have necessarily been curtailed, and there has been difficulty in some areas in obtaining polyvalent vaccine.

I have requested manufacturers to have regard in their marketing arrangements to the need to make vaccine available to hospitals and local health authorities wishing to vaccinate staff at risk because of contact with patients, and to pharmacists for prescription by general medical practitioners. The resources of the N.H.S. are available for the treatment of influenza.

### Representatives

MR. PAVITT asked the Secretary of Social Services on November 25 the total number of medical commercial travellers employed by concerns in membership of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry in promoting drugs to doctors within the N.H.S., and the number of general practitioners in the year 1966.

MR. ENNALS: The precise figure for medical representatives is not known; the Association believe it to be something over 3,000. The number of doctors providing full general medical services in England and Wales at October 1 was 19,844.

## N.H.S. STATISTICS

In NORTHUMBERLAND during July contractors dispensed 204,182 prescriptions (138,674 forms) at a total cost of £135,083. Average cost per prescription was 158.78d.



## LEGAL REPORTS

### Injunction Granted

In the High Court, London, on November 19, Mr. Justice Ungood-Thomas granted to Ronson Products, Ltd., Leatherhead, Surrey, an interlocutory injunction against John Trevor (in business as Mail Trade Imports at 86 Goldsmith Street, Nottingham). Mr. Trevor had used the phrase "Ronson-type" in advertisements for goods that were not made by Messrs. Ronson. The injunction covered electric shavers among other things.

## COMPANY NEWS

Previous year's figures in parentheses

**FISONS, LTD.**—The chairman (Lord Netherthorpe) told the annual meeting on November 25 that the company expected its major element of growth in the future to be from non-fertiliser sectors. They intended to expand in pharmaceutical and agricultural chemicals.

**DRUG HOUSES OF AUSTRALIA (PTY.), LTD.**—The directors are at present evaluating proposed offers of a takeover from Slater Walker Securities (Australia), Ltd., and have indicated that if Slater Walker were to make a cash offer of \$240 for the whole of Drug Houses Ordinary shares and \$1 cash for the preference shares they would recommend acceptance.

### Bankruptcy Discharge

**RONALD JOHN NEWMAN**, formerly trading as a chemist at 136 Norwood Road, London, S.E.24. Mr. Newman, who went bankrupt in 1963 after trading in Herne Hill from 1946-63, was granted his discharge at London bankruptcy court recently, subject to a suspension of three months and on condition that he paid £300 by instalments. "This is not a serious case," said Mr. Registrar Parbury, "there is nothing discreditable in it." Mr. Newman was said to have debts of £5,472. Assets had realised £4,400 but the expenses in the bankruptcy had been "unavoidably heavy" and creditors had received 11s. 3d. in the £.

## BUSINESS CHANGES

**MEDOPHARMA, LTD.**, and Regent Laboratories are removing to Cunard Road, off Chase Road, London, N.W.10 on December 1 (telephone: 01-965 3637).

THE pharmacy of the late Mr. T. Jerram, Main Street, Turriff, Aberdeen, is being closed, the premises having been sold to a non-pharmaceutical organisation.

**BOWATER-SCOTT CORPORATION, LTD.**, have opened a depot at Washington, co. Durham. It will be responsible for delivering direct to customers in co. Durham, Westmorland and Cumberland.

**DAVID WHITE (CHEMISTS), LTD.** (pharmaceutical subsidiary of Trinity Securities, Ltd.), have acquired the pharmacy of the late Mr. W. S. Hunter, 123 High Street, Hanham, Bristol. The pharmaceutical subsidiary is now trading as "Mills Chemists."

## APPOINTMENTS

### Board

**MALLORY BATTERIES, LTD.**—Mr. G. B. Mallory (chairman), has been elected chairman of P. R. Mallory & Co., Inc., the American-based parent company of the Mallory international industrial group.

### Executives

**STATS (M. R.), Ltd.**, have appointed Mr. G. Gittof a client service account executive.

### Representatives

**RADIOL CHEMICALS, LTD.**, have appointed Mr. D. B. Lumb their representative for Yorkshire.

**CALMIC, LTD.**, recently appointed the following medical representatives: Miss M. U. J. Franklin (for Newcastle area); Miss M. A. McDermott (South London); and Messrs. G. M. Laister (South Midlands, Birmingham); A. J. Cole (Leicester); and L. Deakin (parts of Manchester).

## PERSONALITIES

**MR. JOHN FERGUSON** (an assistant secretary, Pharmaceutical Society) spoke on the pharmacists' rôle in the community in a 25-minute television discussion on November 23. During the programme, screened by London Weekend Television in its "Money Go Round" series, Mr. Ferguson saw the pharmacist as an expert to whom the public could always turn for advice. Theme of the discussion, in which two medical practitioners also took part, was "self-medication."

**MR. ALLAN DUCKWORTH, B.Comm., M.P.S.** (secretary of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry 1947-67) has been called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple.



Mr. A. Duckworth

**MR. J. CHAMBERS, M.P.S.** (director and superintendent pharmacist, Prytherchs, Ltd., Hinckley, Leics), has been elected vice-president of the Hinckley chamber of trade.

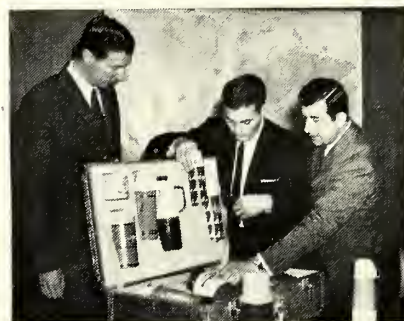
## OVERSEAS VISITS

**MR. A. W. ALLEN** (managing director, Bush Boake Allen, Ltd.) is visiting the overseas divisions of the company in South Africa and Nigeria during November. The visit is one of a series that Mr. Allen will be making to the many Bush Boake Allen companies throughout the world.

**MR. T. EASTWOOD (B.D.H. Chemicals, Ltd.)**, regional marketing manager for S.E. Asia and the Far East, has left London on his second visit to the area this year.

**MR. R. GIBBS** (regional marketing manager, B.D.H. Chemicals, Ltd.), is

paying his second visit this year to the Caribbean area and South America as part of the company's policy of maintaining close personal links with overseas markets. He is calling at Jamaica, Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Barbados and (for the first time) Peru.



**EXPORT SALES TRIP:** Carrying out a final check on a well-stocked sample case are three export executives of Thermos, Ltd., prior to leaving on individual six-week export sales trips to Scandinavia, Africa and the Far East. Between them they will visit over twenty-six countries. From left are Messrs. J. Day (export sales manager), G. Smith and G. Mill (export sales executives).

## DEATHS

**CLEGG.**—On November 6, Mrs. Gladys Clegg, Boundary House, Hales, Norwich, Norfolk. Mrs. Clegg qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1915 and retired in 1959.

**CORFIELD.**—On November 2, Mr. John Henry Corfield, M.P.S., 37 Ladderedge, Leek, Staffs. Mr. Corfield qualified in 1921.

**ELWOOD.**—On November 7, Mr. Thomas Herbert Elwood, M.P.S., 25 Coniscliffe Road, Hartlepool, co. Durham. Mr. Elwood qualified in 1916.

**HOULKER.**—Suddenly on November 21, Mr. George Houker, M.P.S., 68 Queens Road, Accrington, Lancs, aged seventy-four. Mr. Houker, who qualified in 1920, was for about forty years manager of the branch of Thornberrys (Chemists), Ltd., Blackburn Road, Accrington.

**HUNTER.**—On November 24, Mr. Willis Samuel Hunter, M.P.S., late of 123 High Street, Hanham, Bristol. Mr. Hunter qualified in 1933.

**MARSDEN.**—On November 12, Mr. Sidney Archibald Marsden, M.P.S., 98 Portland Road, Hove, Sussex, aged sixty-five. Mr. Marsden qualified in 1926.

**MARSHALL.**—On November 6, Mr. Robert Marshall, M.P.S., Boston, Glenwood Avenue, Bognor Regis, Sussex. Mr. Marshall qualified in 1929.

**SCATTERGOOD.**—Recently, Mr. Roy Beason Scattergood, M.P.S., 56 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28. Mr. Scattergood qualified in 1922.

**SEFTON.**—On November 4, Mr. Benjamin William Sefton, M.P.S., 35 High Street, Holywell, Flint. Mr. Sefton qualified in 1931.

**WILSON.**—On November 4, Mr. John Robert Wilson, 5 North Road, Royston, nr. Barnsley, Yorks. Mr. Wilson qualified as a chemist and druggist in 1910 and retired in 1967.

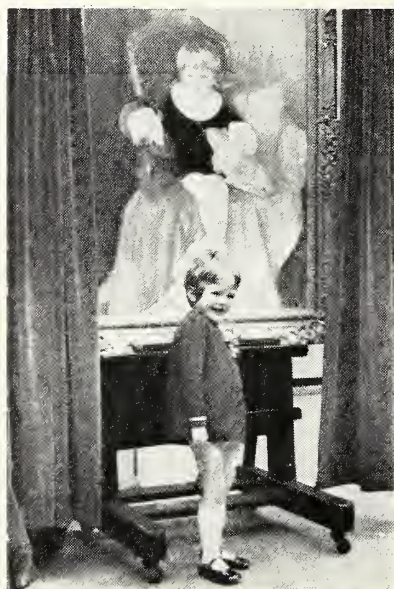


## MANUFACTURERS' ACTIVITIES

**Society for "Serious Slimmers".**—With the aim of "taking the loneliness out of slimming," Ayds division of Cuticura Laboratories, Ltd., Clivemont Road, Cordwallis Trading Estate, Maidenhead, Berks, are sponsoring a new Society for Serious Slimmers, with offices at 8 Hill Street, London, W1X 8DQ. Local groups, meeting regularly in members' homes to discuss mutual problems associated with overweight, are being encouraged. Membership of the Society is free to adults over seventeen years. All members are required to have a serious approach to slimming, to consult their doctor if seriously overweight or in ill health, and not to be associated with "crash" diets or "slimming gimmicks." A panel of experts (under the name Caroline Baxter) will give advice to members and a regular newsletter will be issued free (providing, it is hoped, a "driving force" that will enable the Society to succeed where some other similar ventures have failed). Members will also be offered goods such as bathroom scales at reduced prices, as well as diet sheets and weekly weight charts. Ayds, when taken before a meal, raise the blood-sugar level. They contain liquid glucose which in turn reduces appetite. By that method meals of smaller bulk are eaten and eating habits may be altered. The product is claimed to have a 15 per cent. share of the slimming-aids market in eight months.

**Innovations at Encapsulating Factory.**—A number of innovations, mostly aimed at increasing productivity, have been introduced over the past few months at the Slough factory of R. P. Scherer, Ltd. The company manufacture and package under contract, pharmaceutical products in capsule form; they do not have any specialties of their own. In the department where the materials are weighed all the weighing machines have been fitted with an electronic device which prints out on to tape a record of each ingredient as it is weighed, together with the name of the ingredient in code and other necessary batch information for the records department. This has obviated the necessity of a second person being present to check the weight at the time

of operation. Hand-sorting and examination for the large batches of capsules has been eliminated. It is now done by several Sortex machines which the company have adapted to their requirements. For the benefit of those customers requiring capsules to bear the name of the contents on each capsule, machines have been installed which carry out the work at high speed. There are also machines to pack the capsules in a film of foil and/or film strip packs. Just over one-third of the company's production goes in direct exports, in addition, says Mr. J. A. Mackenzie, M.P.S. (managing director), there must be a considerable quantity of the customers' products which find their way overseas.



**MISS PEARS 1968:** Susan Wood from Leek, Staffs—"Miss Pears 1968"—unveils her portrait, painted by Sir William Hutchinson, at the Federation of British Artists. The portrait, entitled "The Princess and the Frog" will hang alongside the famous "Bubbles" at the offices of A. & F. Pears, Ltd., London, a subsidiary of Gibbs Proprietaries, Ltd., Portman Square, London, W.1. A copy is being presented to Susan and her parents.



**RALLYISTS ALL:** Left, John Davenport, co-driver in the winning Saab V4 driven by Simo Lampinen in the recently held Royal Automobile Club international rally, seen with his Optrex challenge trophy. The trophy acknowledges the often unrecognised part played by the co-driver and the particular strain on his eyes. Centre, Royal Navy team competing in Daily Express London to Sydney motor marathon have had a diet specially drawn up for the journey by Miss Lesley Russ (Research and Development Department, H. J. Heinz, Ltd.) to ensure an intake of 3,850 calories for ten days' driving. Also stowed in their B.M.C. 1800 will be the emergency rations of Heinz apple-and-beef dinner, self-heating soup and malted milk. Right: In the same rally William Chesson and his crew have solved the meals problem with meals-in-a-cup Complan (Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd.)

## TRADE NOTES

**Right at Last.**—Address code of Wander & Co., Ltd., King's Langley Herts, is WD4 8LJ [corrected note].

**Large Size Ready.**—A 300-gm container of Morsep cod-liver oil and cetrimide cream has been made available by Coates & Cooper, Ltd., Pyram Works, West Drayton, Middlesex.

**Appointed Distributors.**—Inter-All Pharmaceutical Services, Ltd., has appointed Ayrton Saunders & Co., Ltd., 44 North Lotts, Dublin, 1, their sole distributors for KH3 for the Republic of Ireland.

**Economy-size Tube.**—Fulford Williams (International), Ltd., Cornwell Road, Hatch End, Pinner, Middlesex have introduced a large tube (60 gm (11s. 9d.) of Barret Swiss hand treatment.

**Revised Trade Terms.**—Abbot Laboratories, Ltd., Queenborough Kent, announce that, from December, minimum parcel size to qualify for 5 per cent. cash settlement discount will be £25.

**Tax Increase Refunded.**—Lentherie Ltd., 17 Old Bond Street, London, W. and Morny, Ltd., Wadsworth Road, Perivale, Middlesex, are refunding to retailers the cost of the extra purchase tax resulting from the chancellor's use of the "regulator" so as to enable stockists to maintain current prices until Christmas Eve.

**U.K. Distributors.**—Cussons Son & Co., Ltd., Kersal Vale, Manchester M70GL, announce that from January 1, 1969, Hermesetas are being sold and distributed in the United Kingdom exclusively by Anestan, Ltd., Rankin Road, Daneshill West, Basingstoke Hants. Any orders for delivery prior to December 31 should be sent to Messrs. Cussons.

## Bonus Offers

**MILES LABORATORIES, LTD.,** Stoke Court, Stoke Poges, Bucks. Alka-Seltzer Extra 5 per cent. on order through wholesaler. While stocks last.

**IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD.,** Pharmaceuticals division, Alderley House, Alderley Park, Macclesfield



Ches. Autumn bonus of 200 Imperacin tablets/capsules with order for 1,000 remains in operation until December 31.

### Premium Offers

REVLON INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION, 86 Brook Street, London, W.1. Fashion wardrobe of six eye shadows in tortoise-tone case with mirror (29s. 6d.).

MAX FACTOR HOLLYWOOD AND LONDON SALES, LTD., 16 Old Bond Street, London, W.1. "Beauty Trio" presentation of "Active Moisturiser," "Cup of Youth" and "Secret Key" in specially designed pack for 12s. 6d. three items for approximately the price of one; creams in 1-oz. tubes; Secret Key in a 1-oz. bottle).

### Discontinued

BAYER PRODUCTS Co., Winthrop House, Epsom, Surrey. Theominal. Pack of 1,000 tablets of 250 continues available).

BOOTS PURE DRUG Co., LTD., pharmaceutical division, Nottingham NG2 3AA. Deltastab tablets (100 and 500).

BURROUGHS WELLCOME & Co., Wellcome Building, Euston Road, London, N.W.1. Methersine tablets.

## NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

### PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES

**Branded Tablets.**—Galen, Ltd., 34 Church Street, Portadown, co. Armagh, Northern Ireland, are distributing through Robert Smith & Co. (Derry), Ltd., 44 Foyle Street, Londonderry, three branded tablets, Parake each containing 500 mgm. of paracetamol and 1 mgm. of codeine phosphate; Ulsacarb (each containing 300 mgm. of magnesium carbonate and 300 mgm. of aluminium hydroxide co. dried gel), both in bottles of 100 and 500, and Galenomylin (each containing 250 mgm. of oxytetracycline dihydrate) in bottles of 100, 500 and 1,000.

**Reformulated.**—H. R. Napp, Ltd., 177 Hill Farm Avenue, Leavesden, North Watford, Herts, state that from December 1, Cyprol cough syrup is being replaced by an improved formula Cyprol expectorant (10s. 10d.) available only in 168-mil (6 fl. oz.). From that date the expectorant will be supplied against all orders for Cyprol cough syrup. Each 5-mil dose contains 4 mgm. of diphenhydramine hydrochloride; 5.25 mgm. of dextromethorphan hydrobromide; 137 mgm. of ammonium chloride; 57 mgm. of Sodium Citrate; 0.015 mil and chloroform; 1.14 mgm. of menthol.

### FOODS



**NEW PACK OF NEW DESIGN:** Potter & Clarke, Ltd., are now supplying their Slippery Elm Food in the tin illustrated. Colour schemes of the malted and unmalted versions are unchanged.

**A New Dessert Spoonfood.**—A new dessert variety, chocolate pudding

CLAY & ABRAHAM (MFG.), LTD., 40 Hanover Street, Liverpool 1. Pe Ve Gel. Painex tablets. COX-CONTINENTAL, LTD., 85 Church Road, Hove, 3, Sussex. Oxatets capsules 250 mgm. (Oxatets tablets 250 mgm. continue available). GLAXO LABORATORIES, LTD., Greenford, Middlesex. — Betnesol cream, 15 gm.; Betnesol and Betnesol-N lotions, each 20 mils; Efcortelan lotion 0.5 per cent., 100 mils (20-mil pack remains available); Diotroxin tablets, 100.

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., pharmaceuticals division, Alderley House, Alderley Park, Macclesfield, Ches. Icipen syrup; 30 mils (all other packs continue available).

UPJOHN, LTD., Fleming Way, Crawley, Sussex. Cortef suspension 25 mgm./c.c., 5 mils. Warehouse stocks now exhausted and no further supplies are available. Present stocks of wholesalers and retailers should be disposed of "in the normal course of business."

### Metricated

PARKE, DAVIS & Co., Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, Cascara Evacuant in bottles of 42 mils (3s. 6d.), 125 mils (8s. 9d.) and 500 mils (29s. 9d.). Cirotyl in bottle of 25 mils (4s. 6d.). Midicel suspension in bottle of 500 mils (88s.).

(10½d.) is added to Trufood's chemists-only Spoonfoods range. It is intended for the introductory stage of mixed feeding. Orders should be sent to Trufood, Ltd., S.A.T. Department, Wrenbury, Nantwich, Ches.

### SOFT DRINKS

**A New Health Drink.**—J. & J. Colman, Ltd., Carrow Works, Norwich, NOR 75A, Norfolk, have launched in the Midlands television area a new health drink, Robinson's Honeyglow, made from lemon blended with pure honey and enriched with vitamin C. Aim of the makers is to market the product as a regular winter drink for children (not specially for use during illness).



Left: New Honeyglow health drink of J. & J. Colman, Ltd., Norwich. Right: Good Boy choc drops for dogs (manufacturers: Armitage Bros., Ltd., Nottingham).

### FOODS FOR PETS

**A New Item in the Range.**—The standard range of Good Boy "choc drops," manufacturers of which are Armitage Bros., Ltd., 29 Castlegate, Nottingham, has been extended by the addition of a new breeder-size drum (15s. 9d.) containing 3½ lb. Label is an adaptation of the standard design in the house colours of red, yellow and black.

### COSMETICS AND TOILETRIES

**Denture Cleaner in Pink.**—Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., launched on November 26 new formula pink Steradent (powder 2s. 1d.; tablets 2s. 4d.) described as "more efficient and better presented." The new product contains hexachloraphene, and is presented in new light-weight plastic pack.

**Pollenated Night Cream.**—A new speciality, XB pollenated night cream (42s.) by Pollen Products, Ltd., 841



High Road, London, N.12, is, they claim, the finest product of its type ever made.

**Two Grooming Agents Making Five.**—Two new products for men has been introduced by Estée Lauder Cosmetics, Ltd., 18 Davies Street, London, W.1. First is a heavy-duty shampoo gel concentrate with anti-dandruff action, claimed to leave hair clean and calm, easy to comb into place. New all-weather hair gel is a clear water-soluble gel that "keeps hard-to-handle hair smoothly under control all day."



**FOAM BATH AND DEODORANT:** Two items in birchleaf-fragrance Sauna products marketed in the United Kingdom by J. L. Perl, Ltd., 29 Old Bond Street, London, W.1.

**Under-make-up Moisture Lotion.**—Revlon International Corporation, 86 Brook Street, London, W.1. have put on sale a light liquid undercosmetic moisturiser recommended for use with light liquid foundation. "The effect is fragile and transparent, part of this Autumn's look for faces." The product (59s. 6d.) is available in Mauvesse, Apricotta, Aquafleur, Naturelle shades. Other news from Revlon is that Ultima, newest Revlon fragrance available (to Ultima II stockists only) in Eau de Parfum spray (55s. 3d.); Eau de Toilette (44s. 6d. and 66s. 6d.); perfume oil (47s. 6d. and 71s.); dusting powder (57s. 6d.); milk bath (57s. 6d.); and body lotion (52s. 6d.); the Love Pat is available in moisturising variant for normal-to-dry skins and there are six new creamy pale shades in Revlon lipsticks.

### SUNDRIES

**Iodine Pencil.**—Rybar Laboratories, Ltd., 6 Park Avenue, Tankerton, Kent, have introduced an iodine pencil in



pocket tube (2s.) for use upon cuts and abrasions.

**Finger-nails Now in Range.**—Girl Cosmetics, Ltd., Hook Rise, Surbiton, Surrey, are extending their Outdoor



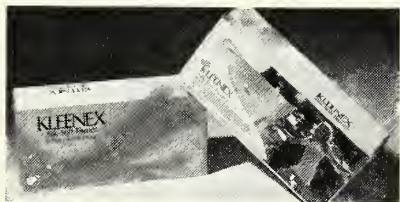
Girl range of nail products with finger nails (9s. 11d.) in pearl white and pearl pink, and sold complete with adhesive and remover.

**Low-cost Elegance.**—Just in time for Christmas, Ever-Ready Personna, 6 Upper St. Martin's Lane, London,



W.C.2, have brought out a new razor with stainless satin-steel finish (9s. 11d.) and easy-to-grip streamlined handle in charcoal grey.

**Electric Massager.**—New from Pifco, Ltd., Watling Street, Manchester, is a stylish electric massager (115s. 6d.) for home use. Into its "sleek, precision-balanced body fits one of five instant-change applicators (hard for body fatigue or aching limbs; sponge for home facials; spiked for scalp massage; cup applicator for loosening strained or tight shoulder and neck muscles; and "tonic" for vigorous, stimulating massage of scalp and hair).



**IN FOUR PASTEL SHADES:** New Kleenex Silk Soft tissues of Kimberly-Clark, Ltd., Larkfield, nr. Maids'one, Kent.



**COSMETIC KITS:** New Ambray face and eye kits (9s. 9d. each) of E. R. Holloway, Ltd., Hatfield, Herts.

## Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

### Strange Creature

SIR,—I was amazed to read in the *C. & D.*, of November 23, p. 477, that salaried pharmacists under eighteen years of age were to receive £50 per annum London weighting. If this is the wording of Whitley Council Committee C.P.H. Circular No. 45 it would appear that they do not understand the meaning of "pharmacist." Unless I am mistaken, to be a pharmacist one must register with the Pharmaceutical Society and in order to register with the Pharmaceutical Society, not only must one have undergone the necessary three years' academic training (post A level G.C.E.) and one year practical training, but one must have attained the age of twenty-one years. If this strange creature — a salaried pharmacist under eighteen years of age — exists I should be very interested to meet it.

E. C. LINDSAY-RAE (MISS),  
London, N.W.3

[The paragraph referred to "salaried pharmacists and pharmaceutical students" — EDITOR].

### What About the Pay for the Dwarf?

SIR,—It must have been a shock to readers of the account of the Pharmaceutical Committees' conference (*C. & D.*, November 9, p. 443), to learn that the time per prescription is taken as 65 sec. in England and Wales, 60 sec. in Scotland, when calculating payments. During nearly fifty years in pharmacy I have dispensed rather less than half a million prescriptions, a mere four years' work by the England and Wales standard. Surely Members of Parliament are not paid for the amount of time that they actually spend talking in the House. Thinking, however barren the result, is part of the job and so are interviewing, writing and travelling. It would appear that the Ministry still holds the view that dispensing is on a par with pulling a pint in a pub (and even barmen are not constantly on the draw). If young people entering our profession get the idea that their work will be an automatic production line they will scared off. Variety and individuality count for so much in the choice of a life's work. Dispensing slot machines might enable contractors to keep up the pace of sixty scripts to the hour in Scotland (fifty-five in England and Wales), but then we should require one of those dwarfs who sit inside the tea/coffee machines on mainline stations filling the containers at the back.

G. W. NEWLING,  
Orpington, Kent

### Rising Hackles

SIR,—I have read with rising hackles of £7,000 being thrown away by the non-use of the final four or five weeks' supply of the first issue of chargeable prescriptions forms. We have been told, time and again, that sums like £7,000 are a mere drop in the ocean of total taxation. They may be, but a prin-

ciple is involved, and the iniquitous throwing away of even that sum of taxpayers' money is indicative of the crass stupidity of our idiot bureaucrats — bureaucrats who have managed to acquire an almost absolute power of disposal of human beings which now approaches a new and sinister legalised slavery. This £7,000 is a symptom of a disease with progressive symptoms in the nature of £70,000, £700,000 and so on. Am I the only one who strongly objects to money paid by me through the myriad forms of taxation being tossed away as nonchalantly as household garbage is tossed into the can? Another thing, I read with utter astonishment that the Post Office receives sixpence for merely cashing a receipt ready made for them by us, while our negotiators have knuckled under to the payment of a fraction of a penny for the time-consuming assistance given to members of the public as they laboriously fill in and sign their statements of exemption. As far as I am concerned — and my assistants — this help is given willingly. But a fraction of a penny! I ask you! Thirdly, is not the whole scheme laughable to some, infuriating to some, grossly unfair to others, a complete mystery to many, a damned nuisance and, when all the extra salaries and expenses have been paid, a pointless excruciating exercise yielding little or nothing as a final result? In fact, I have heard it said that if the *true* figures are ever admitted, they would reveal a net loss.

FRANK WARREN,  
Dartford, Kent

### How Widespread?

SIR,—Very pleased to learn that another pharmacist (C. R. Thewlis, Middlesbrough), receives prescriptions for adults and children written on one form (see *C. & D.*, November 9, p. 440). Perhaps, like me, he gets one large bottle of medicine ordered for the whole family occasionally. It would be interesting to hear how widespread this habit is, as the Executive Council here in Sheffield tell me it is most uncommon, and refuse to warn doctors of the dangers of this "lazy" way of prescribing unless I give them definite examples, including doctors' and patients' names, which for obvious reasons I refuse to do.

J. W. BARBER,  
Sheffield, 8

P.S. I have tried the tactful direct approach, but it does not seem to work very well.

### Appreciated

SINCERE thanks for all assistance over many years.—A.F.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks for all the help received during the forty-three years as a subscriber. I have greatly appreciated the information, advice and news provided and, of course, the Quarterly Price Lists and Supplements have been invaluable. With every good wish for continued success.—A.S.





## CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

For Retailer, Wholesaler and Manufacturer

ESTABLISHED 1859

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### Second "Interim" This Year

THE Chancellor's use of the "regulator" to increase the rates of purchase tax once again disrupts the *C. & D.* Quarterly Price List system, with its cumulative weekly corrections.

On this occasion his action rendered obsolete overnight the edition due to appear on December 1 (which was actually ready in such time that most users will be receiving their copies this week).

The work of collecting, processing and printing manufacturers' intimations of their new prices for a replacement of the Q.P.L. is an unavoidably complicated and lengthy operation. To concentrate on that would be in conflict with the *C. & D.* policy of providing users promptly with the greatest amount of help in their practical daily problems. So first things have again been put first. What is most needed with least delay by general practice pharmacists is the price to charge the customer.

That is being provided. New tax-inclusive retail prices will be published in Interim Price Supplements as soon after manufacturers notify them to us. New tax rate per doz. will be held over for inclusion in the Quarterly Price List.

Retailers will know well by this time that it is not always possible, from outside a manufacturer's own organisation, to calculate the new price and be sure all relevant factors have been taken into account. Equally, of course, it is not feasible for the retailer to refuse sales until he knows the revised price. In the period of uncertainty or vacuum he must do the best he can. To help him in solving that problem, we are providing in this week's supplement four tables showing the additions to make to the untaxed retail figure at the four rates of tax affected, in order to arrive at the "theoretical" new price (which some will think it prudent to go by till the manufacturers' information comes through).

The new prices will be given in alphabetical order of manufacturer, and so far as possible in A.B.C. order within the paragraph. Next week and until the Interim Supplements cease the manufacturers' names will be "cumulated" for users' greater convenience.

We know that our efforts on previous occasions on which purchase-tax rate changes have been made have been greatly appreciated by chemists in retail business, and we shall try to make the results equally useful on the present occasion. If there should be shortcomings we ask forbearance in advance, bearing in mind that the work entails considerable drudgery and frustration for the compilers.

### Microbes in Oral and Topical Products

MICROBIAL contamination in preparations for oral and topical use has recently attracted a good deal of justifiable attention both in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. The interest has arisen largely because of reports from Sweden of salmonellae and coliforms occurring, sometimes in large numbers, in various tablets and traced to the raw materials used. Another factor has been the frequent incidence of *Ps. aeruginosa* (*pyocyanea*) in a wide range of products, and particularly in eye preparations, which have sometimes caused loss of sight. The eye-preparations problem has been met in part by the requirement of the new British Pharmacopoeia and British Pharmacopoeia Codex that all preparations for application to the eye shall be dispensed sterile and it should be pointed out that the onus is still with the individual pharmacist dispensing the preparation, whether in hospital or elsewhere, to ensure that his aseptic techniques are adequate to eliminate completely the hazards of such infections. With other preparations the situation is not so clear-cut, and the problem is under active consideration both in Great Britain and in other countries.

Bearing in mind the conditions in which oral and topical preparations in general are taken or applied, there is obviously no need for many of them to be sterile. Equally obviously there should be some control of the types and numbers of micro-organisms present, and in that context the types are often much more important than are numbers alone. Thus there is general agreement that pathogens, such as salmonellae, *Staph. aureus* the pseudomonads and sometimes the clostridia should be demonstrably absent, as should organisms such as the coliforms, which are indicators of bad hygiene. But with other organisms the situation is much less critical, and opinions are far from unanimous.

However, the Swedish recommendation that a limit of 100 organisms per gm. should apply to all medicaments is both unreasonable and unrealistic. Some preparations, admittedly, contain relatively few bacteria. Tablets of synthetic drugs, for example, often carry less than ten bacteria per tablet. But some liquid preparations may contain some thousands, nearly all of them harmless waterborne types.

Clearly there should be a limit to such numbers, but where is the limit reasonably placed? Is there any argument, moreover, why, amongst the oral preparations, one group should have microbiological standards different from those of another? A good argument could be made—and it has already been done in some quarters—for all oral preparations to have common standards that differ from those, in some ways less stringent, that apply to all topical preparations.

In a finished product the microbial count is only symptomatic of the quality of the raw materials used and of the conditions in which it has been made. If the plant, and/or any of the ingredients, carry a high level of contamination the finished product cannot be expected to be satisfactory. Good plant hygiene, and the use of selected ingredients, with sometimes a little judicious reformulation to ensure a better preserved product, are therefore basic requirements. The regulations under the new Medicines Act, 1968 should assist in that direction so far as industry is concerned, but pharmacists should note they are also affected.



# TOWN-CENTRE CASUALTY

## *More memories of a Colchester pharmacy now no more*

W. H. A. C. WHYTE

FROM the centres of big towns the private chemist, like the family grocer, is disappearing. Cut-price and serve-yourself are ousting quality and personal service, and the small business cannot afford today's four-figure rent.

In Colchester, "Britain's oldest city" according to signs that welcome the approaching motorist, six town pharmacies have closed in recent years, including the oldest of all, Weddell, which has already figured in an article in these pages (see *C. & D.*, May 18, p. 448). The business was established at 105 High Street by Samuel Manthorp in 1834, and closed down in 1964. In 1953 many of its old books were lost in a big fire that destroyed the next-door ironmonger's, Kent, Blaxill. There remains extant only prescription No. 8034, dispensed in 1866 for a Miss K. Parkinson and bearing the stamp "S. Manthorp, Chymist, Colchester." The items prescribed were a ferri et ammon. cit. mixture, still in use today, and an old type of skin ointment containing plumbi carb. With the prescription was an unnamed white powder, the wrapper of which bore the directions "As much as will lie on a sixpence may be dissolved in half a pint of *soft* water. In warm weather add a teaspoonful of pale brandy, or eau de Cologne."

Mr. Manthorp, the founder, was present at the Cups Hotel, High Street, on July 2, 1841, when the Colchester Association of Chemists and Druggists—about the oldest in the country—was formed. In 1844 he was elected librarian of the Association and in his period of office presented twenty-nine consecutive annual reports. At an early stage (in 1846) he was able to announce that 115 volumes (exclusive of periodicals) were available for circulation among members; by 1860 they had increased to 261. In December 1871, the Association responded to an appeal by a Dr. Attfield by sending twenty-three volumes and a donation of £2 2s. to Chicago College Library, U.S.A., "towards reinstating the serious loss which the chemists of Chicago had sustained by the late conflagration." (In October of that year more than half of the city of Chicago had been destroyed by a great fire that consumed over 17,000 buildings worth more than \$200 million and over 300 lives and left 100,000 people homeless. The fire was reputed to have been started by a Mrs. O'Leary, an Irish immigrant, upsetting a lamp which she was carrying on a visit to the shed of the family cow.)

### *A Narrow Escape from Fire*

Mr. Manthorp's own premises had a narrow escape from fire in 1856, when the small gas jet that burned continuously for melting sealing wax somehow set ablaze the cotton covering of the counter. Fortunately the bursting of nearby bottles attracted attention, and the flames were extinguished before serious damage was caused. With unconscious irony, in view of later events, a journalist's report in the local *County Standard* considered that to be "providential, as the shop immediately adjoins that of Mr. Kent, oil and colour man." A Mr. Harris, surgeon-dentist from the city of London, took the opportunity to remind readers that he attended the premises every Saturday afternoon in the exercise of his profession, "artificial teeth extremely moderate."

In later years pharmacists' interests in the library waned, and in 1894 it was agreed to hand over all suitable books (about 250) to the local public library; an official letter of thanks was in due course received from the town clerk (Mr. Wanklyn).

In the meantime, in 1874, Samuel Manthorp had died and was succeeded in the business by his son Frederic, whose labels carried the statement "Dispenser to the Essex

and Colchester Hospital." Frederic seems to have been of a retiring disposition; he did not continue as librarian or even attend meetings of the Association, and eventually in 1881, sold the business to Mr. Arthur Weddell, a chemist and druggist from Lincolnshire.

Mr. Weddell was a man of character and individuality. He became secretary and then president of the Colchester Association of Chemists, a member of the borough's library committee, a foundation member of the local arts club and photographic society and a member of the original Essex Pharmaceutical Committee. The fact that he was churchwarden of All Saints Parish Church for over thirty years is recorded on a plaque in the church, which is now a natural-history museum. Mr. Weddell lived in an old house, now a restaurant, in Museum Street, nearly opposite the rear of the business premises, and a home-made telephone system, powered by two Leclanché cells, connected the house with the business, the wire running from chimney to chimney above the narrow street. When my fellow assistants or I required Mr. Weddell's presence at business during meal times we gave two rings (only on rare occasions did we actually talk on the tinny 'phone). The head electrician at a nearby firm of electrical engineers relates how Mr. Weddell once called him out to repair the outside wire, handing him an old telescope through which to detect the point of fracture!

### *A Female in a Pharmacy—Well, Really!*

A fellow churchwarden was a Dr. Whitby, whose friendship cooled off when Mr. Weddell, very much of the old school, would not accept the doctor's daughter as an apprentice. Fancy a young female in a chemist's! One day a prescription of the doctor handed in to the writer had a drachm of liq. strychn. ordered in each tablespoonful dose. Obviously it was a slip of the pen, the doctor intending a drachm in the twenty-four dose bottle. Mr. Weddell packed me off to the doctor's surgery for a correction. The doctor had the reputation of being rather fiery on occasion and I went unwillingly to the surgery, handed over the prescription and stuttered my request. He studied the prescription carefully, then, handing it back with a firm look that held the faintest suggestion of a twinkle, told me to tell Mr. Weddell to make it up as written. I gave the message to Mr. Weddell, who started violently then recovered himself and, muttering in his beard, took up his pen and adjusted the prescription. I mixed it at speed.

Mr. Weddell developed an extensive veterinary business with local farmers and countryfolk, who were given to jealously guarding their old recipes. When a supply was needed the recipes were copied on to scraps of paper handed furtively over the counter to the chemist, and when returned, pocketed quickly, with a cautious glance around to see if they had been observed. One popular lure that was used to soothe, and so manage, a vicious restless horse consisted of variations of essential oils (aniseed, cumin, fennel and rhodium). Similar combinations—I suspect that aniseed oil alone would suffice—are used or bait by anglers (though the practice is sometimes adjudged unethical) and by gamekeepers to lure pheasants from others' pastures.

All kinds of galenicals, pills, ointments and old-fashioned toilet preparations were made on the premises. One popular tonic was orange and quinine wine. Each year, when the fruit was in season, the grocer across the street sent over a first-class selection of Seville oranges. We sliced them carefully and placed them in the big cask, already cleaned, added pure cane sugar, yeast and water, and left them



to ferment. Official samples were taken from time to time and tested for specific gravity and alcohol content. I fear that many unofficial samples were extracted when the "old man" was not around and judged by taste only. One "vintage" year the "evaporation rate" was so excessive that we had to chance the addition of many extra pints of water.

Mr. Weddell was also a highly skilled analyst. The variety of items tested in his small laboratory was amazing, including beers, dogs, partridges and foxes' stomachs, and eggs, for poisons. Every year, when the analyst at the local millers' was on holiday, he assayed their samples of oil cake. In 1901, when the local stonemason wished to know if his new cement, when set and exposed to the sun, would cause a marble base to crack, Mr. Weddell devised practical tests. He first filled a thin glass tube with the cement and wedged in a stopper. The cement contracted on setting and did not shatter the glass. He next drilled a  $\frac{7}{8}$ -in. hole in a small piece of marble, filled it with cement and, when hard, played the flame of a Bunsen burner on it. No expansion occurring, he concluded that the cement was safe to use. Many thousands of samples of milk were analysed for farmers and dairymen. But, perhaps, water was his chief interest. It must be appreciated that when he first came to the town the water supply was not good. The waterworks tower ("Jumbo") had not been built and

the town was supplied by between 400 and 500 wells, some of them in highly suspicious locations. One sample, he concluded from his figures of the amount and type of impurities, had been drawn from a shallow well in the immediate neighbourhood of a graveyard. Similar figures were yielded by water from the Assistants' Well (Colchester cemetery) which lay between the interments and a cess-pool. Another was described as "clear and of good colour, but these are its only merits, as excessive free and albuminised ammonia suggest a recent discharge of sewage containing urine into the well." Later, in 1884, after the opening of "Jumbo," Weddell still reported on the town supply: "I do not class this as very good, but only good."

On the death of Mr. Weddell in 1925, his widow continued the business with the senior assistant, but—sadly—he early contracted a mortal illness and I took over management, and later, when Mrs. Weddell died in 1941, I found myself the sole owner. In due course I became local secretary and chairman of the Essex Pharmaceutical Committee. In that period, as we are all aware, great changes in business technique and medicine took place. The cosmetic side expanded rapidly, with young ladies taking over the rôle of assistants. Though I endeavoured with some success to keep abreast of the medicinal discoveries I failed to compete in the new, complex beauty field. So, in 1964, came the closure and the end of the epoch.

## A PACKAGING CONTRACTOR EXPANDS

High export ratio in production at new factory at Sunbury-on-Thames

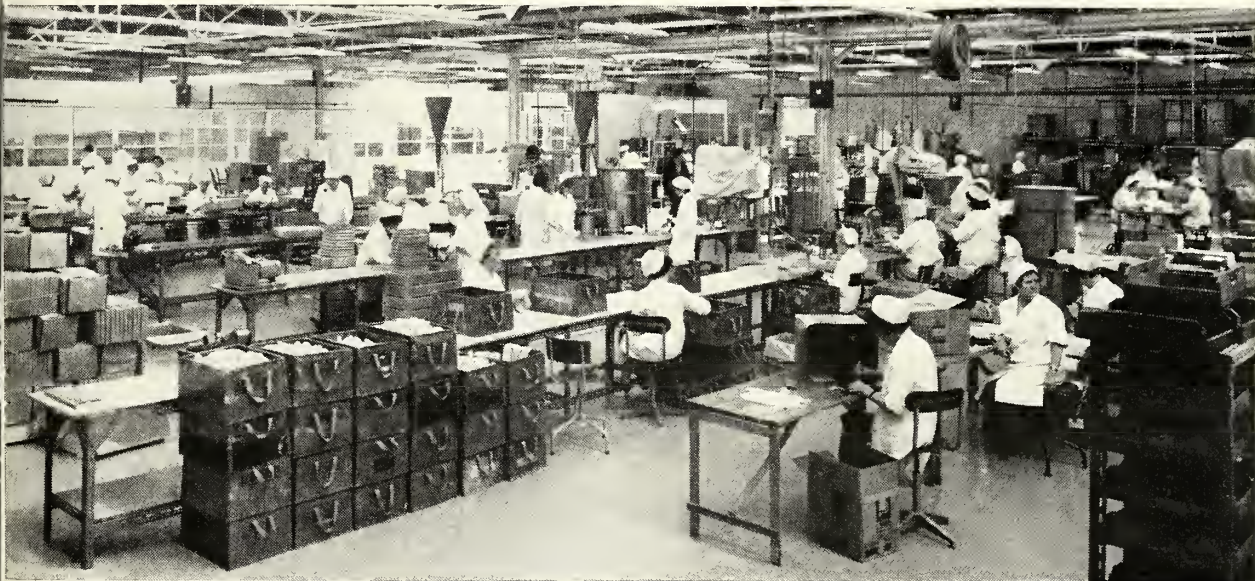
WHEN Pharmacal Supplies, Ltd., moved to new premises at Lincoln Way, Windmill Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, recently, they aimed to be as independent as possible of outside services in order to meet their customers' promised delivery dates. They therefore made provision for resident engineers, established their own printing department, and their own laboratories for development and quality control.

Mr. Mark Morris, who was co-founder of the business twenty years ago, and is now its managing director, explained to Press representatives who visited the factory recently that the company was now able to undertake much larger schedules than formerly at Hounslow. Nevertheless, the

previous policy of flexibility, so far as batch quantities were concerned, would be maintained. For instance in the wet section of the Sunbury factory are vats for the production of ointments, cream and liquids in lots from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ton down to 1 cwt. The same flexibility is obvious in the tableting department, where machines can turn out a total of 2 million tablets a day, though a small order (say for 20,000) can be accommodated. Up to 15 million tablets can be coated in a month, and the printing department does block-foil printing for plastic sachets; silk-screen printing for any type and size of bottle; laminated-foil printing; and, of course, letterpress printing for labels, leaflets and so on. The company believe that they are unique in being able to print

laminated foil for small quantities (100 gross upwards); normally, they say, 5-cwt. foil has to be ordered which produces ten times Pharmacal's required minimum. The main assembly hall at the new factory contains two automatic filling lines, a hand-filling line as well as three interchangeable lines.

The laboratories were designed and built to the company's specifications. With the advent of the Medicines Act the company's directors believe that it will be cheaper for the hitherto small manufacturer to use the services of the contractor rather than install the many required controls themselves. The company's ratio of exports to home sales is high, no less than 85 per cent. of output being sent abroad.



A general view of the packing area of the factory.



# "Professional Get-together" in Bournemouth

## PHARMACISTS INVITE COLLEAGUES TO DINNER

A VENTURE in providing "professionally stimulating events in a relaxed social atmosphere" took place at Bournemouth on November 13. Members of the local branch of the Pharmaceutical Society were hosts to their bankers, accountants, solicitors and medical and dental colleagues at dinner.

Three speakers addressed the gathering on "The Place of the Pharmacist in the Future Health Service."

Introducing the speakers, Mr. J. B. THOMPSON (Branch chairman) said he was happy to launch the function during his year of office. He saw the future as being summed up in the word "co-operation"—in more spheres than that of medicine. For instance, in Bournemouth there was close co-operation with the police—aimed at preventing drugs being obtained on forged prescriptions. He pledged pharmacists' wholehearted support for the health centre planned for Poole General Hospital, but said he thought the pharmacists' place was not in such a centre but in an established pharmacy close by. There should also, perhaps, be a 24-hour dispensing service and services in biochemical analysis and for the early detection of disease. Co-operation with the local health authority in a scheme for health education would effectively prevent misuse of drugs and allow doctors to make better use of their time. He would like to see such a scheme introduced during his year of office.

### Apothecaries Again?

DR. PAULINE KEATING (Bournemouth's senior assistant medical officer of health) said she represented a branch of her profession that had little to do with pharmacists. A high proportion of pharmacists would supply something to a customer who came in with a minor ailment. The pharmacist was not medically qualified and should not prescribe on one symptom alone. More medical training might well be given to pharmacists and they might then revert to their antecedent the apothecary. The pharmacist might well join the general practitioner in a centre managed by the doctor. As a third possibility pharmacists might concentrate on the commercial side of their business.

MR. W. M. DARLING (vice-chairman of the Pharmaceutical Society) saw a future health service very different from that of today. The Medicines and the Health Service and Public Health Acts, soon coming into force, would affect all professional persons in the Health Service. Under the new Minister of Health and Social Security there would doubtless be a refashioning of the administrative structure of the service. Great benefit to professions and public alike could accrue from such a rationalisation but care must be taken that the day-to-day administration, and the access to it, were not remote. Offices must be provided, say in conjunction with those of the Ministry of Social Security to deal with inquiries from the public and the professions.

To make that practicable, a two-tier



PANEL AND CHAIRMAN: Mr. William Darling (vice-president, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain); Mr. Barrie Thompson (Branch chairman), Dr. Pauline Keating and Mr. George Teeling Smith.

system of administration was essential—at area level responsible to the Minister of Health and not to local authorities, so as to plan for the future and co-ordinate activities within its area, and at district level, responsible to the area board, but administering the day-to-day activities of its own part of the area. Professional and lay representation would be, as of right, at district, not at area board, level.

The pharmacist's rôle of advising on minor ailments and of protecting people from many of the medicines they took would increase in the future. It was to be hoped that the Medicines Commission, when deciding how specific medicinal substances might be distributed to the public, would consider increasing the armoury of the pharmacist to include more preparations that were effective in enabling him to fulfil that rôle adequately.

After considering the problems of providing a planned pharmaceutical service and those raised by the provision of health centres, Mr. Darling said he attached great importance not only to the pharmacist-patient relationship but also to the doctor-pharmacist relationship, in which he would like to see a marked improvement. One might be forgiven for assuming that two professions which together were respectively responsible for prescribing and dispensing 300 million prescriptions annually, would be in close and continuous contact. That would be a false assumption. It was all the more regrettable in view of the many opportunities for interprofessional co-operation. Examples were educating the public on the dangers of medicines, and advice on their safe use of medicines. They could be fitted into campaigns promoted by doctors and pharmacists in partnership. The first programme, "Why not on television?", might spell out the toll of more than 800 accidental poisoning deaths from medicines each year, and how that toll might be reduced.

### Interprofessional Liaison

The chief medical officer at the Ministry of Health had called for better communication between the medical and the pharmaceutical professions,

whether in or out of hospital. "The pharmacist," he had said, "must be the custodian of the drug and can be the source of much valuable information for the doctor and nurse about the interactions of drugs and their methods of use." It was to be hoped that, after Noel Hall had reported, the hospital pharmacist would become an active member of the health team giving his guidance at ward level as well as from his pharmacy department.

### Medicines Information Centre

The general-practice pharmacy of the future would be regarded as the centre for the dissemination of information on medicines, not only to the public but also—as in hospital—to the doctor, if only because of the volume of literature on new drugs. That certainly involved, for the doctor, a time-consuming task and one of which the doctor could properly be relieved. Assuming an improvement in interprofessional liaison, should not the doctor be encouraged to seek his local pharmacist's impartial assessment of any particular development in medicines? Should not the pharmacist be expected to produce the relevant data to enable the doctor to form his judgment—at almost a moment's notice. The benefit to the medical man was obvious, and the pharmacist would benefit from the knowledge that his training was being utilised to the full. Mr. Darling expressed a belief that discussions between the British Medical Association and the Society's Council could be fruitful and must become a reality.

Lack of liaison was creating another problem that must be corrected, the difficulty of tracing doctors in general practice, in particular at week-ends and evenings, so as to check the prescriptions they had written. There could be several reasons for a pharmacist's wishing to verify a prescription with the doctor who issued it. Frequently the pharmacist's call was automatically switched to the emergency call service. At other times he might encounter a telephone answering service. That state of affairs sufficiently illustrated the point that there should be joint efforts to improve liaison between the two professions.



Final speaker was MR. GEORGE TEELING-SMITH (director, Office of Health Economics) whose thesis was that the present technological revolution, based on knowledge rather than power, had as yet reached only to about the stage the industrial revolution had reached when it depended primarily on the steam engine. One important contrast between the two revolutions was that whereas, in 1850, the techniques were not yet available to provide the sorts of power available today, in 1968 the techniques were already available, certainly so far as computers were concerned, to take the technological revolution on to its second and third stages. The step which, in "information science", would be equivalent to the step in mechanisation between the steam engine and domestic electric power was a 'here-and-now' possibility in technical terms. He proposed to look at the way the medical care professions and the public were facing up to that situation.

Technological progress had already shown that the potential demand for medical care was unlimited and could never be satisfied. It used to be popular to suggest that an extra £500 million a year or so would "solve the problems" of the National Health Service. That was now known to be untrue. Anything extra that might be spent each year would do no more than push forward the point at which it was admitted that no more could be afforded for an individual patient.

That immediately raised two further issues. There was the humanitarian question whether too much was not already being done in some fields of medicine. A health policy for Britain should concentrate much more on reducing morbidity than on reducing mortality. "Surely the quality of life is so much more important than its length."

The other issue concerned the extent to which the procedures provided were in fact yielding benefits. For several years it had been impossible to market a new pharmaceutical unless it could be clearly demonstrated to have beneficial effects outweighing any potential hazards. It was also increasingly necessary to justify the cost of a medicine in relation to the good it could be shown to do. The same criteria were not applied to other sectors of the N.H.S. "Hotel costs" alone in N.H.S. hospitals cost nearly £5 a day to care for a patient. Yet clinical trials cast doubt on the value of keeping patients in hospital for many of the traditional lengths of stay. Hernia patients, for instance, were now sent home after one or two days in place of the former ten.

Many hospital procedures themselves were of doubtful value. Tonsillectomies, surgery for carcinoma of the breast and intensive care for coronary cases were examples. To assess the effectiveness of medical and surgical procedures—probably one of the highest priorities for the health service—had been sadly neglected.

#### Patient the "Crucial Factor"

The general medical practitioner was often said to be the central figure in the tripartite health service. In fact, the

patient himself was crucial in organising his own medical care. Three out of four people who felt ill would treat themselves, with or without the help of the pharmacist and his products, instead of going to their doctor. In that sense the pharmacist and his products dealt with considerably more illness than the medical profession.

First effect on general medical practice and pharmacy of the continuing technological revolution and "information explosion" could well be a "total information system." Already a system of records linking data from hospital and general practice had been pioneered in Oxford. At the moment there was discussion over the use of brand names and the benefits of "original pack dispensing." If developments in the United States continued, both arguments would soon become of academic interest. Experiments were taking place with a nine-character identification system for medicines. The first three characters would identify the manufacturer, the next four the medicinal com-

pound, dosage form and strength, and the last two would identify the pack size. Using that code, a prescription might simply read A39 B42XAQ. All that would need to be added would be specific labelling instructions. Use of such a code could provide for pricing of prescriptions, preparation of prescribing statistics and monitoring of adverse reactions.

#### Up to Pharmacists

When computers had, to a large extent, taken over from the pharmacist, what should he do? He must develop his information service, both to the medical profession and to the public. Without that the pharmacist was in danger of finding himself without a rôle. Already in hospital the pharmacologists had encroached on the sphere of pharmacy as a source of pharmaceutical information. The pharmacist must clearly demonstrate to the public the advantages of getting their medicine, and their health advice, from him rather than the supermarket.

## CHELSEA PRIZE-GIVING

### Students told how to achieve their true status as pharmacists

"ACT like a shopkeeper and you will be treated like one," said DR. D. A. CAHAL (medical assessor, Committee on Safety of Drugs) to pharmacy students at Chelsea College of Science and Technology when he presented prizes on November 14. Some doctors did regard the pharmacist as a second-class citizen, and some pharmacists by their attitude tended to perpetuate that opinion. "I urge you, starting on your careers, to take up the battle against those who cannot see beyond their noses."

All—doctors, pharmacists, nurses—were members of a team. The doctor could not do his job properly without the assistance—on an equal footing—of the paramedical professions. The pharmacist should be the local consultant on medicinal preparations, and he wished to see more chief and senior pharmacists in hospitals getting on to the wards where they would achieve the status they deserved.

#### Record Number of Higher Degrees

Reporting on the College's 1967-68 session, PROFESSOR A. H. BECKETT (head of the pharmacy department) said a record number of higher degrees had been awarded—two of D.Sc., seventeen of Ph.D., three of M.Phil., four of M.Sc. and one diploma of Chelsea College. Continuing disappointing results in the examination in law relating to pharmacy, showed it was essential for students to see the law applied in practice. His suggestion was that the Pharmaceutical Society should consider holding the examination after the practical training year. During the year the Society's Hounslow Branch had invited its members to "adopt" first-year students. The idea was good because few had any intimate knowledge of retail pharmacy when they graduated, yet 75 per cent. would find themselves practising their profession in that branch.

At Chelsea there had been a number of accommodation changes. The old

pharmacognosy laboratory was being converted into a dispensary and the department's large collection of drugs—"one of the best in the country"—was now almost completely rehoused in new cases purchased with donations from industrial companies. About sixty sixth-formers were present at the ceremony following up lectures given by staff to senior students in grammar schools. They later joined in a tour of the laboratories.

Prizes were presented as follows:—

*First Year.* BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD., PRIZE (best overall student) and WESTERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION PRIZE (pharmaceutics).—Jean Buckley. TIMOTHY WHITES & TAYLORS PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry).—Maureen F. Schiller.

*Second Year.* TIMOTHY WHITES & TAYLORS PRIZE (best overall student) and E. R. SQUIBB & SONS, LTD., PRIZE (pharmacognosy).—Victoria M. Harding. EVANS MEDICAL, LTD., PRIZE (pharmaceutics).—Victoria M. Harding and D. J. Morley. BOOTS, LTD., PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry).—D. M. Cane.

*Third Year (four subjects).* PFIZER, LTD., PRIZE (best overall student) and CIBA PRIZE (pharmacology).—Christine E. Ranby. TIMOTHY WHITES & TAYLORS PRIZE (pharmaceutics).—P. Hunt. BEECHAM (U.K.), PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry).—M. Pickup. PARKE DAVIS & CO., PRIZE (pharmacognosy).—P. J. Houghton and Margaret A. Richardson.

*Third Year (four subjects).* PFIZER, LTD., PRIZE (best overall student); IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., PRIZE (pharmaceutics); SMITH, KLINE & FRENCH LABORATORIES, LTD., PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry), and CIBA, LTD., PRIZE (pharmacognosy).—Rosemary D. Salter.

*Special Prize.* UPJOHN, LTD., PRIZE.—J. Hayes.

After Dr. Cahal had presented the prizes, MR. J. VAN ABBÉ (president, Chelsea Pharmacy Association) congratulated him on his relationship with the industry through the Dunlop Committee and on his recent appointment to a professorship at a London university college (Dr. Cahal was recently made a visiting lecturer in pharmacology and therapeutics at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School).



## LEICESTER SCHOOL'S LAST PRIZEGIVING?

### First to be attended by new head

REPLACEMENT of the annual prizegiving at Leicester School of Pharmacy by a formal graduation ceremony was forecast at this year's function, held on October 29. Presenting the annual report Dr. D. R. BRAGG (who took over as head of the school from Mr. Colin Gunn at the end of last session) said that, with Ph.C. diploma and London External B.Pharm. degree courses replaced by Council for National Academic Awards B.Sc. degrees (now in their third year) the first B.Sc. degrees would probably be awarded at that ceremony, which would probably replace the present prize distribution.

Total number of undergraduates for the session was somewhat lower than the 139 of 1967-68 but, with an intake of sixty in the first year, prospects for the future were more promising.

Of the fifteen students who passed the London External B.Pharm. degree, twelve did so with Honours, three obtaining Upper Second Class and one a First Class Honours degree. That compared with seventy-six passes for the country as a whole only two with First Class and five with Upper Second Class Honours. Miss J. B. Scotton was especially to be congratulated for her First Class degree. Thirty-five Leicester students had passed the final examination for the Pharmaceutical Chemist diploma. During the past few years the volume and quality of research undertaken at Leicester had greatly increased. Many members of staff were carrying out research and eight were also directing the work of twelve full-time research students registered for Ph.D. or M.Phil. degrees. Over the past three years Miss D. Blight received the Jacob Bell Memorial scholarship and F. C. Bird award. In the current year, the Pharmaceutical Society had awarded a Ransom scholarship to Mr. G. D. Rees.

The proposed M.Sc. degree in medicinal biochemistry was now being considered by the Council for National Academic Awards to which the syllabus and regulations for the proposed M.Sc. in applied pharmacology had been submitted. It was also hoped to launch those new courses (which provided for M.Sc. degrees by examination) in September 1969.

#### Staff Changes

Dr. Bragg mentioned that Mrs. G. Hodgkinson, Mr. J. Furr and Dr. B. Higgins had resigned from the teaching staff, and were replaced by Messrs. M. H. E. Andrew, J. Glasby and B. M. Kellaway. The session had been notable for the retirement of the School's head after thirty-nine years of dedicated service. Dr. Bragg added his own good wishes to all those Mr. Gunn had received and thanked all the benefactors whose names appeared on the prize list, especially the pharmaceuticals division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., and Roy Susman (Chemists), Ltd., for new prizes.

Prizes were presented by Dr. K. R. Capper (director, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences as given in next column):—

*First Year B.Sc. Course.* BOOTS PURE DRUG CO. LTD. PRIZE.—Miss C. A. Brown.

*Second Year B.Sc. Honours Course.* LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY PRIZE.—Miss S. U. Tejani. GENATOSAN, LTD. PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry).—J. King. BRITISH DRUG HOUSES PRIZE (pharmacognosy).—E. N. Blow. RIKER LABORATORIES PRIZE (pharmacology).—Miss S. U. Tejani. EVANS MEDICAL PRIZE (pharmaceutics).—E. N. Blow. SMITH & NEPHEW PHARMACEUTICALS PRIZE (practical pharmaceutics).—D. J. Reardon.

*Second Year B.Sc. Ordinary Course.* BOOTS PURE DRUG CO. LTD. PRIZE.—Miss A. M. Worthington. GENATOSAN, LTD. PRIZE (pharmaceutical chemistry).—M. Taylor. RIKER LABORATORIES PRIZE (pharmacology).—Miss A. M. Worthington. BRITISH DRUG HOUSES PRIZE (pharmacology).—J. P. Mehta. EVANS MEDICAL PRIZE (pharmaceutics).—Miss A. M. Worthington. SMITH & NEPHEW PHARMACEUTICALS PRIZE (practical pharmaceutics).—Miss V. M. Maidwell.

*Second Year Courses.* E. H. BUTLER & SON, LTD. PRIZE (forensic pharmacy).—Miss A. Y. Chamberlain.

*Third Year B.Pharm. Course.* PEIZER, LTD. PRIZE.—Miss J. B. Scotton.

*Third Year Ph.C. Course.* BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD. PRIZE.—G. T. Brazier.

*Third Year Courses.* IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD. PHARMACEUTICALS DIVISION PRIZE.—I. R. Grierson.

FRANK YOUNG MEMORIAL PRIZE (best first year student in pharmaceutical chemistry).—M. C. Short.

COLIN GUNN PRIZE (best overseas student in the first year).—M. Y. Jamnagerwala.

SECOND & THIRD YEAR COURSES PRIZE FOR BEST OVERSEAS STUDENT (presented by Mr. Abid Khanbhai in memory of Mr. Taherali Khanbhai).—Miss S. U. Tejani.

DISPENSING PRIZE (presented by John Richardson & Co. Ltd.).—D. Winton.

DISPENSING PROFICIENCY TROPHY (presented by the late Mr. George Hannam).—W. Winton. ARTHUR YOUNG MEMORIAL PRIZE (public spirit and progress) (presented by Ucal, Ltd., Cheltenham).—Miss A. Y. Chamberlain.

#### Studying New Drugs

Addressing the students after the prizegiving Dr. CAPPER said that at the present rate of introduction of new drugs into the Pharmacopoeia 800 new drugs would become official during working life of forty years, involving complete change-over of drugs currently official. Anyone with any feeling for pharmacy remained interested in drugs and that was why schools of pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Society branches were organising post-graduate courses. At the moment 1,300 pharmacists to his knowledge were attending evening classes. He advised his audience to study new drugs by getting manufacturers' literature, drawing structural formulae of new compounds and applying to such formulae what they had learnt in pharmacology; they would then be able to relate properties to structure. The pharmacist might well be the first to learn of the side effects of a new drug. When he did so he should inform the doctor as soon as possible. After outlining how his department could help pharmacists, Dr. Capper said that by using the knowledge they had gained at college as pharmacists, including those in general practice, could continue to find much to interest them. A vote of thanks to Dr. Capper was proposed by Dr. B. Northover.

## HOUNSLOW BRANCH

### Students put their views

When MR. H. S. WOOD, Feltham asked how publicity for pharmacy schools could be improved, Mr. HOCKEY said that no National Pharmaceutical Union literature was available in schools in Somerset, where he came from.

#### Literature Sent to Headmasters

After DR. E. J. SHELLARD, Hounslow, and the Branch secretary, MR. I. M. HOWITT, had drawn attention to careers literature distributed by Chelsea College and by the Pharmaceutical Society to every careers master in the country, MR. H. J. TILLMAN, Hounslow, said that the careers mistress at his daughter's school did not have literature sent to the school by his own company, so it seemed that head teachers failed to pass it on. Summing up the discussion, MR. HOCKEY said that with the reduction in the number of pharmacies, the pharmacy course should be redesigned to include business studies, first-aid and teaching of proprietaries. The Branch secretary comments that the main point brought out during the evening was the almost total lack of contact between student and general practice. Several offers were received from pharmacists in general practice to "adopt" first-year students by inviting them into their pharmacies to let them see how a pharmacy is run. To improve publicity for pharmacy, DR. SHELLARD has been appointed branch careers officer.

THE 1968-69 session of Hounslow Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society began recently with a discussion on "Pharmacy and Us." It was initiated by four final-year pharmacy students from Chelsea College of Science and Technology. First speaker, JOHN CALDWELL, had been attracted to pharmacy by the degree course. Students were discontented, he felt, because their education was not suited to the practice of pharmacy. He saw the pharmacist of the future as a consultant, but did not himself intend to practise pharmacy as it did not offer him the specialist career he wanted. SANDRA BIRCH had turned from biochemistry to pharmacy because it seemed ideal for a woman, with its opportunities for part-time work. Major criticism of the present course was that it paid too little attention to the needs of general practice. She could see little hope of British pharmacists acquiring the status enjoyed by those on the Continent. CHRISTINE WRIGHT had been attracted first by hospital pharmacy, but now hoped to work in general practice. There should be business training leading to management. NICHOLAS HOCKEY drew attention to the poor publicity for pharmacy in schools. Despite a reputation for having an "easy" training degree, pharmacy was in fact quite stiff, owing to the volume of work covered. He advocated business training but said that private chemists were reluctant to take post-graduate students.



# A Quarter of the World's Output of Quinine

## ROUND-THE-CLOCK PRODUCTION AT A BRITISH FACTORY

ESTABLISHED at Berkhamsted, Herts, less than twelve years ago, the quinine manufacturing plant of Lake & Cruickshank Ltd., now supplies around 25 per cent. of the world's quinine requirements. A second factory of the company at Bolton, Lancs, produces comparable quantities of quinidine, its "mirror image."

Over the years there have been many changes of fortune among the world's producers of the two alkaloids. One by one four former British producers have dropped out. Holland's one-time virtual monopoly suffered a sharp set-

seven years to mature) will be in production. In the meantime there will be continued anxiety about the continuity of supply.

From all sources the bark is brought in, differently baled according to origin, to the port of Liverpool and, provided it passes the company's tests for adequate yield (in the region of 8 per cent. of the total weight of bark), is accepted for storage at Bolton, to be drawn on as required by Berkhamsted.

The factory was described in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* in 1958 (March 1, p. 232) as "a unit so compact, and

chance metal, and into a disintegrator. The brown powder that emerges is fed, together with an alkaline mix, into a mechanical mixer, and passed into an extractor that is in circuit with a condenser and cooler. Solvent is passed continuously through the mix until, after some hours, extraction is complete. Two or three filtrations and crystallisations then convert the crude alkaloid to the refined product. For issue it is packed (depending on the size and destination of the order) into Polythene-lined metal canisters, wax-bottomed fibre, or larger steel, drums.



Base of the extractor.



Discharging the spent marc after the alkaloid has been extracted.

back when Indonesia asserted her independence and the cinchona plantations of the islands passed out of Dutch control. Bark from the principal alternative source, the plantations of the Congo, passed mainly into German hands when Belgium withdrew from the territory in 1961.

For the relatively small British industry access to the bark has always been fluctuating and difficult. Yet at Berkhamsted output has increased from around 8,000 kilos in its first year to over 60,000 kilos a year today — enough for all home demands plus a surplus of 85 per cent. for export.

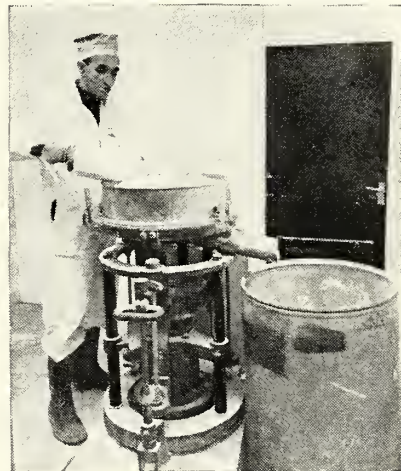
For many years there was a renewed commerce in bark from the original wild source: the forests of Bolivia, and Messrs. Lake & Cruickshank obtained their share of what came on to the market from there. But the collection was unsystematic, and the native gatherers plundered excessively the trees near the river banks. Yields fell eventually to a fraction of what was wanted.

### Reserves Maintained

By purchasing in every available source area — Indonesia, the Congo, Bolivia and India — the company has contrived to maintain reserves equivalent to twelve months' extraction, and in due course its own specially laid plantations in Kenya (the tree takes

so highly planned, mechanised and instrumentalised that the whole operation, from acceptance of the cinchona bark to delivery of the extracted alkaloid ready for purification, requires only the supervision of a single operation." Today, of course, it is more than doubled and working night and day.

The bales of raw material, at the start of the process, are emptied into a hopper, made to pass over a powerful electro-magnet to remove any



Final preparation of the alkaloid.

The plant is serviced by an analytical and development laboratory, staffed by three graduate and attendant technicians and matched by a similar laboratory at Bolton. The company also produces a range of fine chemicals, to which others may be added as occasion arises. To keep all the potentialities under review it has an arrangement with an independent partnership of research scientists located in Copenhagen, Denmark. The company has had such conspicuous success and is an encouragement to those who look with some dismay, perhaps, at the expanding empires of the industry's merged giants.

## BELLADONNA

### Belgium finds new adulterant

THE identity of a new adulterant of belladonna that first appeared on the Belgian market in June 1965 is the subject of a monograph in the September-October issue of *Journal de Pharmacie de Belgique*. The adulterant is concluded to be *Solanum Schimperianum* Hochst ex A. Rich, a native of Eritrea, Ethiopia and north Somaliland. *S. Schimperianum* is said to be related to *S. dulcamara*, L but is differentiated by its leaves, which are always entire, not lobed, and covered with an ashy green down. The monograph also describes the histology and microscopical characteristics.



# Irish Pharmacy and the Common Market

## "HARMONISATION" CHALLENGE IF IRELAND JOINED "THE SIX"

"IRISH pharmacists will have to make sure," warned MR. A. G. M. MADGE, M.P.S., Plymouth, when he spoke on "Europe—a Challenge to Irish Pharmacy," at Galway recently, "that whoever represents pharmacy on pharmaceutical matters, if entry into the European Economic Community is accepted, is well versed and briefed."

### Catching Up—Not Levelling Down

On the whole pharmacy on the Continent was more professional, more respected and had more influence politically. Behind the E.E.C. in all its spheres of activity was the concept of "harmonisation." The inference was that harmonisation allowed those who were behind to catch up, whereas "equalisation" could be a levelling-down process. With different languages, different practices, different customs and different standards, harmonisation was a challenge that would only slowly and with determination be overcome.

The Pharmacy Advisory Group of the Six suggested that a pharmacist moving from one E.E.C. country to another must have reciprocal recognition of qualification; knowledge of the language of the host country; knowledge of its forensic pharmacy; and knowledge of the Pharmacopoeia of the country concerned. He must be of good character and be at least twenty-five years old. There was a guaranteed right to set up in business in any of the Six, without discrimination. The Group considered that freedom of establishment should be linked with limitation of pharmacies on a population/area basis; that they must be owned by pharmacists (involving curtailment of company or co-operative ownership); that there must be no branch pharmacies, and that the distribution of medicaments should be under pharmaceutical control.

"The final decision of the Council of Ministers will have far-reaching effects on pharmacy in the E.E.C. In many ways, though pharmacy in the Community and in our own countries have led different pathways before, it seems that these are now converging. Economic circumstances and ruthless non-pharmaceutical business pressures are making the pharmacists in the Six more commercialised, whereas we are raising our standards and endeavouring to be more professional."

The challenge to Ireland was: "Do you wish to be more professional? Do you wish to accept the responsibilities of providing a comprehensive pharmaceutical twenty-four hour service to the public? Could you, with ever-increasing costs, and heavier taxation, find the necessary capital for such developments? If not, how far does the State step in?"

Mr. Madge said that Great Britain, with its new Medicines Bill, had had to accept more State control. Final arbiter on the registration of new premises for a pharmacy would be the Minister for Health; there would be control on space allocated, standards of hygiene,

etc., as well as a list of medicaments sold at places other than pharmacies—the first time such restriction had been placed on non-pharmaceutical channels.

MR. M. F. WALSH said that every patriotic Irish pharmacist must be happy at the decision of Pfizer, Ltd., to build a new £8 million chemical factory in Cork, but it meant that Ireland must have the organic chemists and technicians available to man it. At present there were not enough pharmacists of the right calibre and experience in the Republic. Of the 165 pharmacists in Irish industry, ninety-six were pharmaceutical representatives and about sixty-nine were in management and production. It was a great pity that more pharmacists were not available for key positions in industry. Under present legislation—"and with no medicines legislation in the offing"—there was no compulsion on any company to employ a pharmacist at all, though happily many did. He hoped some progress would be made with the Government in having medicines legislation introduced. Everything must be done to help the Irish industry develop the sophisticated technology to produce more high-quality preparations in order to compete on the home market with E.E.C., United Kingdom and United States companies, because a sound home market was often the secure base of increasing exports. He called on all Irish pharmacists to accept the challenge of Europe.

### Inadequate Return for Professionals

The basic qualification of all pharmacists, irrespective of what branch was pursued, said MR. J. P. O'DONNELL, was identical and entirely University orientated. Only 20 per cent. of his income, however, as shown in a survey carried out by the Practice of Pharmacy Committee in 1965, was derived from compounding and dispensing prescriptions. That grossly inadequate return from professional work was the direct result of the State's practice of supplying medicines through approximately 500 dispensaries without pharmaceutical personnel and in direct competition with private pharmaceutical establishments. The system, which relegated the pharmacist to being a part-time dispenser and compounder of medicines, had reacted adversely to the normal professional development of Irish pharmacy as compared with the position in Belgium, Denmark or Holland. At present the State provided medicines through the dispensaries for about 35 per cent. of the population, Mr. O'Donnell contrasted that situation with the position in Holland, where there was a population of 13,000 to every pharmacy.

"Long before we enter Europe, Irish pharmacy will have met another challenge which, if availed of with the dedication it deserves, will condition us for a smooth harmonisation with our European colleagues. This challenge will come with the implementation of the White Paper on the Health Services . . . as it will be the first step by the

State in the correct direction — towards the point where the dispensing and compounding of medicines, at a levels, will be exercised by pharmacists."

A greater awareness must be ignited in the community of the importance of the pharmaceutical service to public health; of the University training of the pharmacist; of the moral and social rôle of the profession and of the usefulness of health education as provided by the pharmacist.

"I have not the slightest doubt that whatever challenge is posed with our entry into Europe, the Irish pharmacist will surmount it and continue his personal concern for the health of the individual and his protection of the public from misuse of drugs, drug addiction and harmful self medication."

"As the signposts point toward Europe, we are apprehensive but not dismayed at the requirements, standard and obligations that will operate if and when we are accepted as a member of the Community. With determination foresight and hard work, a new pattern of Irish pharmacy — not a slavish copy of any of our European counterparts — will evolve that will embrace our moral and social needs and meet the requirements of our people in the human animal and agricultural fields." The Health Department's concept of pharmacy as a sort of combined purchasing list must be cast aside.

MR. T. R. MILLER said he noticed that two leading multiple companies in British pharmacy had amalgamated and instead of 80 per cent. pharmacy and 20 per cent. ancillary products that they would have a 50 per cent. drug 50 per cent. ancillary policy. He wondered what the general reaction of pharmacists was to that. If Britain and Ireland went into Europe the one-man, private pharmacy would be predominant, yet here were two of the biggest multiple businesses in England going completely contrary to the new policy that would emerge.

### What About Company Pharmacy?

MR. MADGE said it had to be realised that there was free development, with nothing to stop a pharmacist from selling odd lines. At the moment there was a shortage of pharmacists in E.E.C. countries. With equal pay for women there would be an increase in the number of women pharmacists. Up to the present the Council of Ministers had given no decision whether the whole of the Six should have proprietor pharmacies or whether company or public pharmacies would be allowed. If Ireland got into the Six before the Council of Ministers' decision was taken they might have some influence upon it.

Mr. Madge said he was unable to tell PROFESSOR PAUL CANNON how many pharmacists were employed in the Health Departments of each of the E.E.C. countries.

PROFESSOR R. F. TIMONEY (Dean of the College of Pharmacy) made the



joint, that the High Court decision in London in the case *Dickson v. Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain* would influence the development of pharmaceutical practice in the United Kingdom — and probably in the Republic — in the immediate future. The courses in pharmaceutical sciences in the Republic extended over two-thirds of the time required for the same subjects in the United Kingdom. Despite favourable comments on the degree courses in Dublin from visitors from the University of London and from external examiners — all from British Universities — it was certain that the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain would not at present accept the Irish three-year degree course as equivalent to educational requirements for a pharmacy degree in Great Britain; an extension of the course to four years

might provide an acceptable basis for recognition. "It is likely, in fact, that a fourth year will be introduced for Honours degrees in pharmaceutical sciences, but the decision whether a first degree course in pharmacy should be extended to four years cannot be made by the educational authorities only." In the pharmaceutical industry, which was expanding rapidly in the Republic, it might confidently be expected that pharmacists would be utilised to an increasing extent in production and quality control, and pharmacy's professional bodies should, in union with educational authorities, endeavour to provide the basic qualifications for entry into industrial management. In the whole concept of pharmaceutical education in a European community of nations he hoped a valuable combination of scientific and administrative

qualifications would be made available.

MR. M. L. CASHMAN, who presided, said that Britain and the Republic seemed to be more or less tied together in their efforts to join E.E.C. The intervening years before membership was attained would see a tremendous change in Irish pharmacy and undoubtedly a change in the educational pattern. Unfortunately Ireland was not in a position to have observers in the various centres in Europe. The Government had promised to keep them informed of developments, but their information to date was limited. He paid tribute to the help the British Pharmaceutical Society was always willing to give them. Through them, and through the efforts of Mr. Madge, many useful pieces of information were being made available to them and for that they were very grateful.

## TRADE MARKS

### APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED

#### BEFORE REGISTRATION

"Trade Marks Journal,"

November 13, No. 4707

device, 910,785, by Direct Nitrogen, Ltd., Wallington, Surrey. For chemical products for use in agriculture and horticulture (1)  
WEETABS, B917,055, by Wigglesworth, Ltd., Westhoughton, Lancs. For artificial sweetening substances in tablet form (1)  
device, 925,917, by Elga Products, Ltd., Lane End, Bucks. For chemical preparations and substances for the purification and clarification of water; and ion exchangers (1)  
WAVENEY, B901,261, by Waveney Chemical Co., Ltd., Ramsgate, Kent. For shampoos; preparations for permanent waving and for wave setting; conditioning preparations and lacquers, all for the hair (3)  
ESTRIC, 901,638, by Vestric, Ltd., Runcorn, Ches. For non-medicated toilet preparations; cosmetic preparations, essential oils, dentifrices, preparations for cleaning artificial teeth, preparations for the hair; and toilet articles; etc. (3)  
WHISTLE, 905,170, by Bristol-Myers, Co., New York, U.S.A. For soaps, etc. (3)  
ELLE GARNIER CRISTACOLOR, B908,319, by Laboratoire Garnier, Paris, 16, France. For preparations for the hair; essential oils; cosmetics; non-medicated toilet preparations, perfumes, soaps and dentifrices (3)  
AMINOMOTO, B911,288, by K.K. Kamimoto Hongo, Kobe City, Japan. For soaps, perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, essential oils, cosmetic preparations, hair lotions and dentifrices (3)  
NNOXA QUICK CHANGE, 918,640, by Innox (England), Ltd., London, W.1. For perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations; cosmetics and toilet articles; preparations for the hair and soaps (3)  
JECTORET, B919,109, by Ejectoret, S.A., Geneva, Switzerland. For toilet and cosmetic articles, capable of being ejected or incorporating an ejection device (3)  
ESAC, 920,797, by Alberto-Culver, Co., Melrose Park, Illinois, U.S.A. For cosmetic preparations and non-medicated toilet preparations (3)  
O, B921,959, by Unilever, Ltd., Port Sunlight, Birkenhead, Ches. For soaps, detergents not for use in industrial or manufacturing processes and perfumes (3)  
ATIONYL, 922,109, by L'Oreal, Paris, France. For perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, cosmetics, dentifrices, depilatory preparations, toilet articles, preparations for the hair, and soaps (3)  
IAQUIFINISH, 922,308, by Lancome, S.A., Paris, France. For perfumes, perfumed non-medicated toilet preparations and cosmetics (3)  
OMBOY, 922,840, by Grant & Co., Ltd., Tallaght, Co. Dublin, Eire. For non-medicated toilet preparations, cosmetic preparations, toilet soaps, perfumes, prepara-

tions for the hair and dentifrices (3)  
NEW DEW, 923,121, by Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham. For non-medicated toilet preparations, perfumes, soaps, cosmetic preparations, dentifrices, depilatory preparations, toilet articles, preparations for the hair, sachets for use in waving the hair, shampoos, and essential oils (3)  
EPERDUE, 924,881, by J. & E. Atkinson, Ltd., London, W.1. For soaps, perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, cosmetics, essential oils, hair preparations and dentifrices (3)  
MP (device), 843,199, by Marshall's Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., London, W.C.2. For pharmaceutical preparations and substances (5)  
SULFALEP, 904,846, by Ed. Geistlich Sohne, A.G. Fur Chemische Industrie, Lucerne, Switzerland. For pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations, all containing sulfa drugs (5)  
CAMPHOMINE, 905,100, by Toraudag, A.G., Zug, Switzerland. For pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations, medical and surgical plasters and material prepared for bandaging, all for use in the treatment of respiratory ailments; sanitary substances; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; and preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin; all containing camphor (5)  
ANABRON, 908,446, by Recherches Pharmaceutiques et Scientifiques, Paris, 8, France. For pharmaceutical products (5)  
RESTONA, 912,784, by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., Saint Paul, 19, Minnesota, U.S.A. For adhesive products for use in surgery (5)  
ARDMONA DIET DELIGHT (device), B907,616, by Ardmoma Fruit Products Co-operative Co., Ltd., Mooroopna, Victoria, Australia. For mixtures of diced peaches and diced pears, quartered pears, halved apricots, and sliced peaches; all being fruits prepared as dietetic foodstuffs (5)  
STOP AND GO, 914,434, by INTEC Proprietaries, Ltd., Morden, Surrey. For medicated preparations for the scalp and skin; anti-perspirants, deodorants; and medicated preparations for the mouth (5)  
EMBRYCORDINE, 915,571, by Richter Gedeon Vegyeszeti Gyar Reszvenytarsasag, Budapest, 10, Hungary. For embryonic heart extracts being pharmaceutical preparations for human and veterinary use (5)  
FENICRON, 920,276, by CIBA, Ltd., Basle, Switzerland. For chemical preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin; insecticides (5)  
COBAN, B921,422, by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., Saint Paul, 19, Minnesota, U.S.A. For bandages; and materials prepared for bandaging (5)  
ETOXIN, B291,461, by Etoxin, Ltd., London, E.C.3. For pesticides, bactericides; and fumigating substances and preparations (5)

BUTARREUMINA, 921,697, by Laboratories del Dr. Esteve, S.A., Barcelona, Spain. For pharmaceutical, medical and veterinary preparations and substances; and disinfectants (5)  
LEM-SIP, B921,861, by Reckitt & Sons, Ltd., Hull, Yorks. For pharmaceutical preparations, medicated beverages, and preparations for making medicated beverages, all being lemon flavoured and all for sale in the United Kingdom otherwise than for export to the Irish Republic (5)  
CALCININE, 921,869, by Warner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Co., Morris Plains, New York, U.S.A. For pharmaceutical preparations and substances, all consisting of or containing calcium (5)  
AKINETON, 922,058, by Knoll, A.G., Ludwigshafen-on-Rhine, Germany. For pharmaceutical preparations for the treatment of Parkinson's disease and spasmodic conditions (5)  
DILAWAY, 922,395, by D.D.D. Co., Ltd., Watford, Herts. For pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations and substances; foods and beverages for infants and invalids and for dietetic purposes; and medicated preparations for application to the skin after shaving (5)  
KLOREFEX, 923,983, by Cox-Continental, Ltd., Hove, 3, Sussex. For pharmaceutical preparations and substances (5)  
LIL-LETS, 925,733, by Southalls (Birmingham), Ltd., Saltley, Birmingham, 8, For sanitary tampons (5)  
BRINERDIN, 925,736, by Sandoz Products, Ltd., Horsforth, Leeds, Yorks. For pharmaceutical products (5)  
IMUNASMA, 927,011, by Fisons Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., Loughborough, Leics. For pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances; infants' and invalids' foods; disinfectants (5)  
AUTOCHEMIST, 915,583, B915,585, by A.B. Autokemi, Stockholm, Sweden. For pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations and substances; all for use with automatic chemical analysis apparatus (5) and for surgical, medical, dental and veterinary instruments and apparatus, all being for use with automatic chemical analysis apparatus (10)  
VAPO-CROME, B909,858, by Gillette Co., Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. For razors, razor blades, etc., all containing chromium (8)  
DIALYT, 920,352, by Carl Zeiss, Wurttemberg, Germany. For photographic, cinematographic and optical instruments and apparatus; telescopes, fieldglasses, binoculars, spectacles and spectacle lenses; photographic camera and microscopes etc., and parts and fittings (9)  
FILTRON, 912,783, by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., Saint Paul, 19, Minnesota, U.S.A. For surgical masks (10)



## TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 27: Biggest talking point of the week in the markets was the Government's latest economic measures and, in particular, the imposition of import deposits (see p. 504). Whilst imports of CRUDE DRUGS and ESSENTIAL OILS, CONCRETES and ABSOLUTES will not require the 50 per cent. deposit to be lodged with the Customs before the imports will be released, there are a few important exceptions, including MENTHOL and CAMPHOR. Practically all PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS too will require deposits to be made whether they be supplied as part of a finished product or not. As a result of the imposition of the regulator the spirit duty on ETHYL ALCOHOL has gone up to £18 18s. 8d. per proof gall. from £17 4s. 3d. PARAFFIN LIQUID is also increased by 0.22d. per gall. but PETROLEUM JELLIES are not affected.

Price changes in BOTANICALS were mainly upward. Dearer per lb., were ACONITE (by one shilling), MATTO GROSSO IPECACUANHA (1s. 6d.) CLOVES (threepence to sixpence) and (per cwt.) PODOPHYLLUM (20s.) white SQUILL (10s.) and DANDELION (10s.) Lower by threepence per lb. were BALSAM PERU and SENEGA.

In ESSENTIAL OILS, several of the English-distilled spice oils were firmer reflecting the current tight supply position, of the raw material. Ceylon CITRONELLA was threepence per lb. dearer on the spot; LEMONGRASS forward at 62s. 6d. kilo was down 2s. 6d. Sicilian LEMON was quiet with best winter-crop oil 44s. to 46s. lb.

### Pharmaceutical Chemicals

AMINACRINE HYDROCHLORIDE.—£25 kilo.  
BROMIDES.—Crystals (per kilo):—

	Under 50 kilos	50 kilos	250 kilos
POTASSIUM*...	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
SODIUM ...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
AMMONIUM ...	6 5	5 10½	5 8
	7 4	6 9½	6 6

\*Powder is fourpence per kilo more

GLYCEROPHOSPHATES.—Per kilo in 50 kilo lots; CALCIUM, B.P.C., 29s. 6d.; IRON 37s. 10d.; MAGNESIUM, 39s. 11d.; MANGANESE, 57s. 5d.; POTASSIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 9s. 8d.; SODIUM, 50 per cent., B.P.C., 6s. 11d. and powder, B.P.C., 1949, 22s. 10d.; GLYCEROPHOSPHORIC ACID, 20 per cent., 12s.

PARAFFINS.—Prices to wholesale distributors per gall. delivered in drums.—Liquid HEAVY B.P., 109.92d. for over 5-drum lots; 5 drums and under 110.92d. LIGHT B.P., 90.92d. and 91.92d. for same quantities. Technical white: LIGHT, 83.42d. and 84.42d.; MEDIUM, 96.22d. and 97.22d. Drums charged and returnable. Soft: WHITE nominally £110-£131 ton and YELLOW, £79-£107 5s. All in non-returnable drums delivered.

### Crude Drugs

ACONITE.—*Napellus*, 6s. lb. nominal.

AGAR.—Kobé No. 1, 18s. 6d. lb., c.i.f.; European, 22s. 6d., duty paid.

ALOES.—(Per cwt.). Cape primes, 325s. spot, nominal; 275s., c.i.f., Dec.-Jan., Curaçao, 520s.; 500s., c.i.f.

BALSAMS.—(per lb.). CANADA: 33s. c.i.f., 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. spot; COPAIBA: 10s. c.i.f.;

10s. 6d., spot; PERU: 13s. 9d., c.i.f., 14s. 3d. spot; TOLU: B.P., 13s.-14s.; genuine as imported, 41s. 6d., c.i.f.

BELLADONNA.—LEAVES, 3s. 8d. lb., spot 3s. 6d., c.i.f.; HERB, 2s. 6d. and 1s. 10d., c.i.f.; ROOT, 1s. 11d. spot, 1s. 10d., c.i.f.

BENZONIN.—B.P.C., SPOT £25 to £42 per cwt.

BUCHU.—LEAVES, spot 22s. lb. nominal.

CALUMBA.—Spot, 130s. cwt.; 120s., c.i.f.

CAMPHOR.—B.P. powder, 42s. kilo; 34s., c.i.f.

CARDAMOMS.—Alleppy greens, 20s. 6d., spot; 19s. 9d., c.i.f.; prime seed, 30s., c.i.f. CASCARA.—Spot, 310s. cwt.; 290s., c.i.f.

CASSIA.—*Liguea*, whole, 500s. cwt., duty paid, nominal; 420s., c.i.f.

CHERRY BARK.—Thin natural, 3s. 2d. lb., spot; 2s. 11d., c.i.f.

CHILLIES.—Zanzibar, 350s. cwt. spot.

CINNAMON.—(c.i.f.) Seychelles bark, 440s. cwt. Ceylon quills, five 0's, 9s. 4d.; four 0's, 8s. 7d.; two 0's, 8s. 4d.; firsts, 6s. 8d.; quillings, 4s. 6d.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar, 8s. 9d. lb. spot, Madagascar, 8s. 6d.

COCHINEAL.—(Per lb.). Canary Isles silver-grey nominally 32s. 6d., spot and c.i.f., black brilliant, 37s. 6d., nominal. Peruvian silver-grey, 25s. nominal.

COCILLANA.—Bark, 3s. 3d. lb., spot; 3s. c.i.f.

COLOCYNTH PULP.—Spot and c.i.f., 4s. 6d. lb.

CUBEBS.—Spot quoted at 285s. cwt.

DANDELION.—Root, 410s. cwt. spot; 400s., c.i.f.

ERGOT.—Portuguese—Spanish, 8s. 3d. lb.; 7s. 9d., c.i.f.

GENTIAN.—Spot, 320s. cwt. nominal; 310s., c.i.f., nominal.

GINGER.—(Per cwt.).—Sierra Leone, 200s. spot; Cochinchina new crop (Dec.-Jan.), 265s., c.i.f. Jamaican No. 3, 360s. spot; Nigerian split, 172s. 6d., spot; peeled, 170s.

GUM ACACIA.—Kordofan cleaned sorts, 245s. cwt. spot; 235s., c.i.f.

HONEY.—(per cwt. ex store). Australian light amber, 150s.; medium amber, 137s. 6d. Argentinian 150s.; Canadian, 180s.; Mexican, 135s.; Chinese, 120s.

HYDRASTIS.—35s. 6d. lb.; 34s. 6d., c.i.f.

HYOSCYAMUS.—*Niger*, 2s. 2d. lb.; 2s., c.i.f.

IPECACUANHA.—(Per lb.). Matto Grosso, 50s. spot; 47s. 6d., c.i.f. Jan.-Feb.; Costa Rican, about 65s. spot; Jan.-Feb. 58s. 6d., c.i.f. Colombian, 50s., spot, nominal; Nicaraguan, 55s. spot.

JALAP.—Mexican, 6s. 3d. lb. spot; 6s., c.i.f. Brazilian, 2s. 2d. nominal; 2s. 1d., c.i.f.

KARAYA.—No. 2 f.a.q. gum, 310s. cwt. spot; 285s., c.i.f.

KOLA NUTS.—West African halves, 8½d. lb.; afloat, 8d., c.i.f.

LANOLIN.—ANHYDROUS, B.P., is quoted from 5s. 5d. to 6s. 0½d. kilo as to grade in 1-ton lots delivered free drums. Cosmetic grade, 6s. 5d.

LEMON PEEL.—Spot and c.i.f., 2s. 9d. lb., nominal.

LIQUORICE.—ROOT, Russian, 85s. cwt.; BLOCK JUICE, Anatolian, 250s. per cwt.

LOBELIA.—(lb.) Dutch, new crop, 4s. 2d., c.i.f.; 4s. 4d., spot. American, 12s. 9d., c.i.f.; 13s., spot.

LYCOPodium.—Spot, 45s. lb. nominal.

MACE.—Grenada No. 1, 9s. 6d. lb., spot.

MENTHOL.—(lb.), Chinese, 35s. 6d., spot; shipment, 32s., c.i.f. Brazilian, 28s. 6d., spot; 27s., c.i.f.

MERCURY.—Spot, £223-£225 per flask of 76 lb. ex warehouse.

NUTMEGS.—(Per lb., c.i.f.) West Indian sound assorted, 5s., defectives, 3s. 10d. East Indian, 80's, 5s. 9d.; 110's, 4s. 10½d. b.w.p. 3s. 5½d.

NUX VOMICA.—Shipment, 110s. cwt., c.i.f.

ORRIS.—Florentine, 520s. cwt., c. and f.

PEPPER.—Sarawak white, 3s. 0½d. on spot 2s. 11½d., c.i.f.; black, 2s. 5½d. spot; 2s. 3½d. c.i.f.

PIMENTO.—Shipment, 694s. cwt., c.i.f.

PODOPHYLLUM.—*Emodi*, 300s. cwt. nominal spot and 300s., c.i.f.

QUILLAIA.—255s. cwt., spot; 210s., c.i.f.

RHUBARB.—Various grades offered a from 9s. to 25s. per lb. spot.

SAFFRON.—Mancha superior, 755s. per lb. Rio, 750s. landed terms.

SARSAPARILLA.—Jamaican, 4s. lb. nominal

SEEDS. (Per cwt.) ANISE.—China star 300s., nominal. CELERY.—Indian, 360s. spot; 335s., c.i.f. CORIANDER.—Moroccan 67s. 6d., spot; 63s., c.i.f.; Rumanian whole 70s.; splits, 65s., both duty paid. CUMIN.—Iranian, 155s., duty paid; 147s. 6d., c.i.f. DILL.—Indian, 162s. 6d., spot; 142s. 6d. c.i.f. FENNEL.—Chinese, 110s., duty paid. FENUGREEK.—Moroccan, 75s., duty paid. 58s., c.i.f. MUSTARD.—English, 70s.-97s. 6d.

SENEGA.—Canadian, spot, 29s. 9d. lb., 29s. 6d. c.i.f. Japanese, 27s. in bond.

SENNA.—(Per lb.) Tinnevely LEAVES spot: Prime No. 1, 2s. 2d.; No. 3, f.a.q., 1s. 4d.; shipment, No. 3, 1s. 2d., c.i.f. PODS: Tinnevely hand-picked, spot, 2s. 4d.; manufacturing, 1s. 9d. Alexandria hand-picked, 5s. to 7s. as to grade; manufacturing forward, 2s. 2d., c.i.f.; spot, 2s. 4d.

SQUILL.—WHITE, 185s., cwt.; 180s., c.i.f.

TINQUIN BEANS.—Para, 9s. lb., c.i.f. (10s. spot); Angostura seconds, 7s. landed.

TURMERIC.—Madras finger, spot, 260s. cwt.; shipment, 232s. 6d., c.i.f.

TRAGACANTH.—No. 1, £285 cwt.; No. 2, £265 spot.

STYRAX.—Spot, 21s.; 20s. 6d., c.i.f.

VALERIAN ROOT.—Indian, 360s. cwt.; spot; 345s., c.i.f.; Continental, 400s.; 385s. c.i.f.

WAXES.—(Per cwt.) Bees', Dar-es-Salaam, 77s., c.i.f. CANDELLIA, 550s., spot. CARNAUBA, fatty grey, 335s.; 312s. 6d., c.i.f.; prime yellow, 465s.; 425s., c.i.f.

WITCH HAZEL LEAVES.—4s. 6d. lb., spot; 4s. 3d., c.i.f.

### Essential and Expressed Oils

CARDAMOM.—Indian, 500s. per lb., English distilled, 650s.

CITRONELLA.—Ceylon, 6s. 9d. per lb. spot, 6s. 5d., c.i.f.; Formosan, 6s., in bond; 6s. 6d., c.i.f.; Chinese, 5s., in bond; 5s. 1d., c.i.f.

LEMON.—Sicilian, 44s. to 46s. lb. for best winter crop.

LEMONGRASS.—Spot, 58s. kilo; 62s. 6d., c.i.f.

PEPPERMINT.—(Per lb.). *Arvensis*: Chinese, 10s. 6d., spot; 10s. 3d., c.i.f. Brazilian, 10s., spot; 9s. 4d., c.i.f. (Jan.-Feb.). American *Piperita*, 40s. to 47s. 6d.; Italian, 95s.

### UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 25: Spanish SAFFRON was reported easier from source though there were no quotations. Imported LEMON OIL was down \$1 per lb. through increased supplies. There was speculation that TRAGACANTH would rise before the year-end.



## PATENTS

COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS ACCEPTED  
From the "Official Journal (Patents),"  
November 13

leguarded composition containing physiologically active ingredient. W. C. Gibson. 1,138,154.  
ridazone derivatives and herbicidal compositions containing them. Badische Anilin- & Soda-Fabrik, A.G. 1,138,158.  
eparation of 1-amino - 2-nitro - 4-( $\beta$ -hydroxyethyl) - methylamino benzene and its uses. L'Oreal. 1,138,171.  
anolic acid derivatives. Biorex Laboratories, Ltd. 1,138,247.  
ers of testosterone and related 17 $\beta$ -ols and their preparation. E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co. 1,138,248.  
erapeutic respirator. Liston-Fletcher, Inc. 1,138,274.  
ish patent specifications relating to the ve will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) m the Patents Office, 25 Southampton ildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, m December 27.

From the "Official Journal (Patents),"  
November 20

ethod and compositions for fertilising plants. Walco A.B. 1,138,318.  
enic and antimony derivatives. United States Borax and Chemical Corporation. 1,138,332.  
rbamyl hydroxamate pesticides. E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co. 1,138,347-8-9.  
aconolactone derivative. Lilly Industries, Ltd. 1,138,367.  
erpholine derivatives. Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. 1,138,405.  
coline derivatives. Soc. Farmaceutici Italia. 1,138,419.  
eparation of optically active isomers of serine. Tanabe Seiyaku Co., Ltd. 1,138,421.  
roid compounds. Merck & Co., Inc. 1,138,460.  
anidine derivatives. Bristol-Myers Co. 1,138,476.  
troleum jelly. Johnson and Johnson. 1,138,484.  
ilising apparatus and method. H. W. Andersen Products, Inc. 1,138,512.  
inoline derivatives. Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. 1,138,539-40.  
16 $\beta$ -diamino-androstanes. Organon Laboratories, Ltd. 1,138,605.  
andard solution for the determination of he bilirubin content of body liquids. H. Haury (trading as Dr. Heinz Haury Chemische Fabrik. 1,138,664.  
sticidal preparations. CIBA, Ltd. 1,138,714.  
eparation of an acid component as an intermediate product for effervescent compositions. Doctor Andreu, S.A. 1,138,730.  
oholic hair preparations. Hans Schwarzkopf. 1,138,763.  
phalosporanic acid derivatives. Bristol-Myers Co. 1,138,768.  
ccess for freeing animal feeds of *Salmonella*. Cape Fear Feed Products, Inc. 1,138,777.  
ish patent specifications relating to the ve will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) m the Patents Office, 25 Southampton ildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, m January 1.



CHRISTMAS PACKS: A. Wander, Ltd., are ain presenting their 1-lb. diabetic milk ocolate assortment and 1-lb. diabetic milk ocolate biscuits in Christmas presentation acks, as illustrated.

## COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading should be sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

## Monday, December 2

BURY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Knowsley hotel, Bury, at 7.30 p.m. Open discussion.  
CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Owen Webb House, Gresham Road, Cambridge at 8 p.m. Mr. R. Sutherland (Beecham Research Laboratories) on "Development of the Semi-synthetic Penicillins."  
COLCHESTER BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Red Lion hotel, Colchester, at 8.15 p.m. Mr. D. Learmont on "Advances in Treatment in Ophthalmology."  
HARROW BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Victoria Hall, Sheepcote Road, Harrow, at 7.40 p.m. Mr. G. Raine (group chief pharmacist, St. George's Hospital) on "Recent Developments in Therapeutics" and formulation of Branch resolutions.  
LONDON BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, Auditorium, Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London, N.W.1, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. A. E. Dormer (consultant physician, Forest Group of Hospitals) on "Potassium for Christmas in the Andes."  
NORTHAMPTON BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Plough hotel, Bridge Street, Northampton, at 8 p.m. Dr. J. R. Sharpe on "Danger Signals Coming into the Retail Pharmacy."  
NORTH METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London, W.C.2, at 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Professor A. N. Davison (Professor of biochemistry, Charing Cross Medical School).  
NOTTINGHAM BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, 64 St. James's Street, Nottingham, at 8 p.m. Mr. J. Charlton (assistant secretary, Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee) on "N.H.S. — The Present Position."  
STOCKPORT BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Belgrade hotel, Stockport, at 8 p.m. Film evening.

## Tuesday, December 3

GLASGOW PHARMACY CLUB, R. A. Peacock & Son, Ltd., tea room, 28 Westminster Terrace, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, at 7.30 p.m. Whist drive.  
LANCASTER, MORECAMBE AND WESTMORLAND BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Clarendon hotel, Morecambe at 8 p.m. Mr. B. J. Thomas (Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.), on "Drug Dependence and the Pharmacist."  
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Medical Institute, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, at 7.45 p.m. Formulation of Branch resolutions and tape-recorded lecture.  
NORWICH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich, at 7.45 p.m. Mr. J. Wright (secretary, National Pharmaceutical Union and Central N.H.S. (Chemist Contractors) Committee) on "N.P.U. and N.H.S. Matters."  
RETAIL ALLIANCE, Caledonian hotel, St. Albans Road, Watford, at 7.30 p.m. Decimalisation meeting.  
RHYL BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Postgraduate medical centre, Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl, at 8 p.m. Detective Sergeant R. Otter, on "Crime Prevention."  
WORCESTER CITY AND COUNTY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Star hotel, Worcester, at 8 p.m. Speaker from Middle East Airlines.

## Wednesday, December 4

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Medical centre, Boscombe, at 1.15 p.m. Mr. V. Criscuolo, on "Theory of Management." At Cornelia nurses' hostel, Poole, Dr. J. Loakes on "Vaccination — Reappraisal."  
EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, WEST HAM ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS AND WALTHAM FOREST DIVISION, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Whips Cross Hospital medical centre, London, E.11, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. P. D. Trevor-Roper (Westminster Hospital) on "Relationship of the

Eyes to Religion, Sex and History."

FIFE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Station hotel, Kirkcaldy, at 8 p.m. Dinner and dance.  
GRIMSBY BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, New Humber Royal hotel, at 7.45 p.m. Meeting sponsored by Allen & Hanburys, Ltd. Film on shop management and stock control, buffet supper and discussion.  
MERSEYSIDE BRANCH, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS, Shaftesbury hotel, Liverpool, 3, at 7.30 p.m. Dinner party, speaker: Dame Ethel Wormald.  
PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP LUNCHEON CLUB, ROYAL SOCIETY OF HEALTH, Quaglino's restaurant, Bury Street, London, S.W.1, at 12 noon. Professor Edith Penrose on "Some Problems Relating to the Pharmaceutical Industry and the Responsibility of the Companies. Tickets (52s. 6d. each) from Miss J. Parker, 66 Hampstead High Street, London, N.W.3 (telephone 01-794 2485 or 01-794 4919. Late booking's on December 2 by telephone 01-629 5011).  
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, Technical College, Chester Road, Sunderland, at 7 p.m. Seminar on pharmaceutical applications of membrane filters in conjunction with Millipore (U.K.), Ltd.  
SWANSEA AND WEST GLAMORGAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Dolphin hotel, Swansea, at 7.45 p.m. Formulation of Branch resolutions and film evening.  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, W.C.1, at 6 p.m. Dr. T. A. Sears on "Action of Local Anaesthetics." At 7 p.m. Professor A. S. V. Burgen (Cambridge) on "General Anaesthetics."  
WOKING BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Ship hotel, Weybridge, at 7.30 p.m. Dinner and dance.

## Thursday, December 5

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCHES, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, and BATH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, Assembly hall, School of Nursing, Bristol Royal Infirmary, at 7.30 p.m. Tripartite quiz between students and Branch members.  
BEDFORDSHIRE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Three Horse Shoes hotel, Leagrave Road, Luton, at 7.45 p.m. Christmas dinner and social.  
BLACKPOOL BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Imperial hotel, at 7.45 p.m. Professor A. H. Beckett (a member of Council) on "The Problem of "Dope" in Society and Sport, and some Methods for its Detection."  
BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, at 6.30 p.m. Mr. R. S. Roberts on "The Origin of the British Pharmacopoeia."  
CARDIFF BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, School of Pharmacy, Welsh College of Advanced Technology, Cathays Park, Cardiff, at 7.30 p.m. General meeting. Speaker: Professor A. M. Cook (dean, Welsh School of Pharmacy).  
CHELSEA COLLEGE PHARMACY ASSOCIATION, College House, Chelsea College of Science and Technology, Manresa Road, London, S.W.3, at 7.30 p.m. Christmas party. Admission 2s. 6d.  
DUNDEE AND EASTERN SCOTTISH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Queens hotel, Dundee, at 7.30 p.m. Cheese and wine tasting.  
EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, WEST HAM ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS AND ESSEX SECTION, ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY, Cauliflower hotel, 553 High Road, Ilford, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. C. C. Stevens (Imperial Chemical Industries, pharmaceutical division) on "Sainsbury Report and its Impact on the Pharmaceutical Industry."  
HASTINGS BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Warrior hotel, St. Leonards-on-Sea, at 8 p.m. Dr. E. C. Tees on "Modern Treatment of Allergic Diseases."



HOUNSLOW BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Sun hotel, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, at 7.45 p.m. Mr. F. Clive-Ross on "Local History in the Hounslow Area."

HUDDERSFIELD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, St. Thomas' Club, Longroyd Bridge, Huddersfield, at 7.30 p.m. Annual dinner. (Open meeting, men only.)

LIVERPOOL BRANCH, GUILD OF PUBLIC PHARMACISTS, Ear, Nose, and Throat Infirmary, Myrtle Street, Liverpool, 7, at 6.30 p.m. Business meeting.

PHARMACY DEPARTMENT, CHELSEA COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, Physics lecture theatre No. 1, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.3, at 7.15 p.m. Mr. J. F. Dunne (London Hospital Medical College) on "Variation of Drug Responses in Man."

ROYAL SOCIETY, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London, S.W.1, at 9.30 a.m. Discussion meeting on structures and functions of proteolytic enzymes.

SOCIETY OF COSMETIC CHEMISTS, Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London, W.C.2, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. R. Bennett (Royal Aircraft Establishment) on "Photography as an Aid to Industry."

THAMES VALLEY PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, Winthrop House, Surbiton, at 8 p.m. Mr. R. Dickinson on "Pharmacy in America."

WESTERN PHARMACISTS' ASSOCIATION, Eccleston hotel, Gillingham Street, London, S.W.1, at 7 p.m. Social evening.

### Friday, December 6

ROYAL INSTITUTION, 21 Albermarle Street, London, W.1X 4BS, at 8.50 p.m. Mr. H. N. Robson, on "Witchcraft and Wonder-drugs." (Members only.)

SOCIETY FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, Blossoms hotel, Chester, at 7 p.m. Dr. A. S. Curry on "Alcohol and Drugs in Blood and Urine."

### Advance Information

AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY PHARMACY GROUP, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Kesteven Agricultural College, Kesteven, Lincs, March 19, 1969. Meeting on crop protection. The group hopes to arrange a week-end course (Saturday evening until Monday lunchtime) on the same subject at Sunderland School of Pharmacy early in July or late in September 1969. Intending participants should inform Miss J. L. Millward, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.1, stating their preferred period.

INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT SHOW, Centenary Halls, Brussels, Belgium. May 23-31, 1970 (biennial thereafter).

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR AND INDUSTRIAL FILM FESTIVAL, Antwerp, Belgium, May 1969. Secretariat: Lamorinièrestraat 236, Antwerp, Belgium.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL ENGINEERING AND AUTOMATION EXHIBITION, Earls Court, London, S.W.5, March 10-14, 1969. Organisers: Industrial Exhibitions, Ltd., 9 Argyll Street, London, W.1.

OPPORTUNITY SCOTLAND. Exhibition organised by the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, May 21 to June 6, 1970.

## Prescribers' Press

What doctors are reading about developments in drugs and treatments

A NEW synthetic polypeptide, DW75, has been found by workers at Glasgow Royal Infirmary to have a longer duration of adrenocorticotrophic activity, when given intravenously, than tetracosactrin (Synacthen) given intravenously or intramuscularly. Given intramuscularly, however, DW75 was not absorbed so well. Natural ACTH contains thirty-nine amino acids but comparable activity has been found with tetracosactrin ( $\beta^{1-24}$  synthetic corticotrophin) which has only twenty-four. DW 75 (Sandoz Products, Ltd.) is a polypeptide of twenty-five amino acids but has three modifications to the sequence found in the natural hormone, each made to resist oxidation or degradation by enzymes. The authors find in the new compound, on the basis of a thirty-minute test, no obvious advantages over Synacthen in assessing adrenocortical function, nor can its duration of action compare with that of Synacthen Depot. But they do consider that its intermediate duration of activity may be useful in assessing depressed adrenals without priming the glands as could happen with the long-acting corticotrophin preparations (*B.M.J.*, November 23, p. 487).

NORGESTREL (13  $\beta$ -ethyl-17 $\alpha$ -ethynyl-17  $\beta$ -hydroxygon-4-en-3-one), "one of the most potent progestogens available," has been found to give adequate contraceptive protection when taken at a dose level of 0.5  $\mu$ gm. daily. The compound was studied in 188 women during 2,250 cycles by workers at United Bristol Hospitals and the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, London. Only two pregnancies due to failure of method occurred. The method was relatively free of side effects and was acceptable to the great majority of patients. The authors suggest that an effect on corpus luteum function may be part of the antifertility action, in addition to the effects on cervical mucus, endometrium and tubal transport of ova, attributed to other low-dose progestogens. It is thought that because the *dl* form of the compound was used, and only the *d* form is biologically active, it may be possible to obtain the same contraceptive effi-

ciency with 25-35  $\mu$ gm. of *d*-norgestrel (*B.M.J.*, November 23, p. 489).

"AFTER very many trials we are firmly convinced that to date the most useful and effective drug available [against seasickness] is promethazine hydrochloride," write two consultants to the Cunard Group in the *British Medical Journal*. A dosage of 50mgm. intramuscularly is employed for adults, proportionately less for children. The patient is sent to bed for an hour and usually sleeps, waking with regained appetite (*B.M.J.*, November 23, p. 514).

## CONTEMPORARY THEMES

Subjects of contributions in current medical and technical publications

TWO CENTURIES OF KAOLIN. *Soap. Perf. Cosmet.* November, p. 813.

COLLAPSIBLE TUBES for cosmetic and pharmaceutical preparations. *Soap. Perf. Cosmet.* November, p. 834.

BEHAVIOUR EFFECTS of some 4-substituted amphetamines. *Nature*, November 23, p. 800.

COSMETIC AEROSOLS. Chlorinated solvents for *Drug. and cosm. Ind.*, October, p. 49.

PLASTIC DOG COLLARS CONTAINING DICHLOROVOS. Studies on the safety of. *Vet. Rec.*, November 23, p. 538.

DIABETES. Effectiveness, reproducibility, and weight-relation of screening-tests for. *Lancet* November 23, p. 1101.

$\alpha$ -METHYL-*p*-TYROSINE in the management of pheochromocytoma. *Lancet*, November 23, p. 1105.

LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT INFANTS. A possible drop in first-week-mortality rate for, after phenobarbitone treatment. *Lancet*, November 23, p. 1123.

PREVENTION OF RHESUS IMMUNISATION. A controlled clinical trial with a comparatively low dose of anti-D immunoglobulin. *Brit. med. J.*, November 23, p. 477.

INFLUENZA VIRUSES. Investigation into the attenuation of, by serial passage. *Brit. med. J.*, November 23, p. 482.

COMPARISON of the adrenocorticotrophic activities of two synthetic polypeptides: Synacthen and DW 75. *Brit. med. J.*, November 23, p. 487.

NORGESTREL. Contraceptive action of continuous low doses of. *Brit. med. J.*, November 23, p. 489.

DECISIONS ON PRESCRIBING. *Med. Wld.*, November, p. 12.

A RAPID METHOD OF BLOOD GLUCOSE ESTIMATION [Dextrostix]. *J. roy. Coll. gen. Pract.*, November, p. 392.

BUPIVACAINE in paracervical block. *Proc. roy. Soc. Med.*, November, p. 1158.

## NEW COMPANIES

P.C.=Private Company. R.O.=Registered Office.

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## COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

The information given in the table is of number of appearances and total screen time in seconds. Thus 7/105 means that the advertiser's announcement will, during the week covered, be screened seven times and for a total of 105 seconds.

Period—December 8 to 14

PRODUCT	London	Midland	Lancashire	Yorkshire	Scotland	Wales & West	South	North-east	Anglia	Ulster	Westward	Border	Grampian	Eireann	Channel Is.
Anadin ... ..	3/90	2/60	2/60	2/60	1/30	2/60	1/30	—	—	—	2/60	1/30	3/90	—	2/60
Horlicks... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1/30	1/30	1/30	1/30	1/30	—	—	—	—
Ronson automatic toothbrush	—	—	—	—	—	2/90	3/135	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
electric shavers ... ..	4/120	3/90	4/120	3/90	3/90	3/90	3/90	4/120	3/90	2/60	3/90	3/90	2/60	—	—
Escort hair dryers ... ..	3/135	2/90	3/135	3/135	1/45	2/90	4/180	3/135	2/90	3/135	3/135	3/135	2/90	—	—
Rio hair dryers ... ..	4/120	3/90	2/60	3/90	2/60	3/90	3/120	3/90	3/90	2/60	2/60	3/90	1/60	—	—
Sparklets syphons ... ..	4/120	4/120	2/60	2/60	3/90	4/120	2/60	2/60	3/90	4/120	4/120	3/90	3/90	—	2/60







